

lic rights and interests. We urge upon American Catholics a full and liberal support of our Catholic papers and magazines and the encouragement of Catholic literature. These are words that should be pondered well by those Catholics who are not regular readers of a Catholic journal.

### Spain of To-day.

'Certain fellow-travellers' (writes the Rev. Thomas Van Ness in the Boston 'Christian Register') 'tell me that Spain is decaying. It may be; a month's stay in a foreign country makes it impossible to generalise; but if Spain is dying, she is showing the most lively energy of any country I know. Take San Sebastian for illustration. It is the Court centre during the summer months. Its position, near the French frontier, makes it easily accessible from the north as well as from the south, and just at this season it is crowded with fashionable and aristocratic Spaniards. A gentleman from Massachusetts, who has lived in Northern Spain for over 25 years, took me from Biarritz in France to San Sebastian, and pointed out its many improvements. A river running in from the sea, and corresponding in flow and position to the Charles at Boston, had been embanked on either side with strong granite blocks, and the low tide-lands filled in exactly as in the Back Bay of Boston. The work—to my uncritical sight at least—seemed better done, certainly it was more extensive, than that done either on the Cambridge or Boston side in the last dozen years. Then this splendid stone wall was carried on and down, and built right in the face of the turbulent Bay of Biscay. Near by a hill was being levelled, the surplus soil going to fill in the tidelands. A spacious boulevard with central gardens ran along the side of the river, reminding me of the new one on the Cambridge side of the Charles. Along this boulevard elegant and expensive homes were being erected. I had the impression that I was walking in our Boston Back Bay section in the early eighties, when the "building boom" was on.'

The Rev. Thomas Van Ness sees very little to admire in the Catholic Church in Spain (says the 'Sacred Heart Review'), which is of course not to be wondered at, since the reverend traveller is a Protestant. He finds in Spain a hostility to the Church and its ministers, which he is at a loss to understand, forgetting that there is always in every land the spirit of worldliness which stands over against the spirit of God. He finds this dislike exhibited in many ways, and yet he says he is not prepared to say what it betokens. He doubts whether it means that Spain is going to swing far from the Church. He does not believe it means that some form of Protestantism will capture the field, and he gives the unsuccessful of the Congregational body in Northern Spain as an example of what little hope Protestantism has of weaning the people away from the Church of their inheritance.

**MAKE NO MISTAKE!**—You may fancy a cough is a trivial affair, but unless you take precautions you will find it rapidly develop into something very serious. Take warning, therefore, and at the first symptom of trouble try **TUSSICURA**, which everyone who has once taken it acknowledges to be the only certain remedy for complaints of the Throat and Lungs. There will be no difficulty in obtaining it, as all Chemists and Storekeepers keep **TUSSICURA**, and you should insist on having that and nothing else.—\*\*\*

### Wonders of a Watch.

'Much in little' can be said more truly of a first-class American watch than of almost any other product of human ingenuity and industry. The watch one carries in his pocket, unless it is of the cheapest 'pocket-clock' variety (says an American exchange), has in its movement more than 150 parts, and this number does not include the case which holds the movement.

A glance at the movement is enough to show that some of its parts are very small, but one can scarcely realise how minute some of them are. Take, for example, the numerous screws which hold the parts together. Some of them are so tiny that it takes nearly 150,000 of them to weigh a pound. One must use a good microscope to see the threads in these screws, and each of the threads must be absolutely perfect and true, or the screw is useless.

There are screws in a small-sized watch, such as women usually carry, which have a thread of 260 to the inch. The weight of one of these screws is one one-hundred and thirty thousandth of a pound.

The diameter of the pivot of the balance wheel in a watch is only one two-hundredth of an inch, and pivots are classified by a gauge which measures down to one ten-thousandth of an inch. The jewel hole into which the pivot fits is one five-thousandth of an inch larger than the pivot, so that the latter may have sufficient play.

Jewels in a watch movement are cut from slabs of garnet, ruby, or sapphire, one-fiftieth of an inch thick. Then they are 'surfaced,' drilled through the centre, and on the convex side a depression is made for an oil cup. A pallet jewel, finished and in use, weighs one one-hundred and fiftieth thousandth of a pound, while the weight of a roller jewel is a fraction more than one two-hundred and fifty-six thousandth of a pound.

The largest hairspring stud is four one-hundredths of an inch in diameter, and nine one-hundredths of an inch in length.

To make the complete movement of a good watch more than 3700 different processes are employed. It takes about five months to complete a single watch of the best grade, but as all the processes are carried on simultaneously, the finished product is turned out continuously by the manufacturers.

The balance in a modern watch must make 18,000 vibrations every hour. A change in only one beat will cause the watch to gain or lose four and four-fifths seconds in 24 hours. Think of the wonderfully delicate mechanism and equally delicate adjustment that puts altogether more than 150 pieces of almost microscopical size and turns out a watch that will not vary one second in 24 hours; and then take off your hat to the American manufacturer who, by doing this, has taken the lead of the whole world in the making of watches.

**MYERS and CO., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street.** They guarantee highest class work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth give general satisfaction, and the fact of their supplying a temporary denture while the gums are healing does away with the inconvenience of being months without teeth. They manufacture a single artificial tooth for Ten Shillings, and sets equally moderate. The administration of nitrous-oxide gas is also a great boon to those needing the extraction of a tooth. Read advertisement.—\*\*\*

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### Branson's Hotel,

Corner of KING & ST. ANDREW STS.

### MR CHARLES BRANSON,

who for many years was at the Grand, has now assumed the management of the above Hotel, which is centrally situated at the corner of Great King Street and St. Andrew Street. At considerable cost, the whole building has undergone reconstruction. It has been greatly enlarged, furnished, and appointed, regardless of expense, making it the most comfortable Hotel in town. It comprises 18 bedrooms, bathroom, large dining, drawing, smoking, billiard, and commercial rooms. Fire escape and iron balcony completely surrounding the Hotel, giving the most ample security against fire.

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For absolute strength, extreme simplicity, freedom from weak or undesirable points, and abundance of excellent working features throughout, **Excelsior Ploughs** are unrivalled. They will do perfectly the work that can be expected of any plough, and are guaranteed to give satisfaction in any soils where a plough can work at all, no matter how tough and difficult the work. They have extra length of land beam, specially made mould boards, and steering gear of the most complete and approved kind. Revolving swivel steel circular coulters. Double furrow £11 10s; three furrows, £16 10s.—Morrow, Bassett, and Co., sole agents in New Zealand for Cock-shutt farm implements.—\*\*\*

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