

any and all cost. There is no sacrifice too costly to make in support of it, and we in America ought not for a moment withdraw our support from Mr. Redmond and his lieutenants in their work of solidifying and coordinating the various elements of the Irish people in their present brilliant effort to bring peace and prosperity to their precious little island.

As we have stated, people all over the country are acting in the spirit and the letter of this good advice already. Henceforward let the nation's resolute determination to hold at any cost or sacrifice what has been won for it be still more plainly demonstrated. Our great measure of liberty has been passed; but the independence of Belgium was secured eighty-four years ago, and the people of that heroic State are fighting to-day against tyrants who have attempted to enslave them. If self-government was worth all the age-long struggles and sacrifices that resulted in its achievement, the holding of self-government is worth a hundred thousand times more than the men of Ireland need sacrifice now. He enshrined an immutable principle in simple words who said: 'Eternal vigilance is the price of freedom.'

IRELAND'S POPULATION INCREASED.

According to the *Dublin Freeman's Journal* the population of Ireland increased last year by 5000. This is the first year since the great exodus began at the end of the 'forties in the last century that the population of the country has increased within the space of a year. Increases have been registered within a quarter as compared with the previous quarter, and once within a half-year. But the complete year's returns have always shown a decrease on the previous year, and this decrease has gone on steadily from year to year for the past 65 years. The figure of the increase has been obtained by deducting the number of deaths and the number of emigrants from the number of births. The calculation omits, however, to take account of the number of immigrants who have returned to the country, and if these are considered the population has increased not by 5000, but by 13,000. The emigration and immigration returns are interesting. They show that whilst there was a considerable decrease, amounting to 30 per cent., in the number of Irish-born men and women that left the country during the year, there was again an increase in the number of those (natives of Ireland) who returned to the land of their birth. These numbered 8045, as compared with 5940 in 1913, an increase of 35 per cent. The return of Irish emigrants was greatest from the United States, whence 4740 came back to Ireland. The returns from all the British colonies numbered 3060, of whom more than half (viz., 1593) returned from Canada. The figures we have quoted refer only to those of Irish birth who have returned. In addition 232 persons of foreign birth came to Ireland to take up their residence in this country, and no doubt the majority of these are Irish-Americans of Irish descent who have returned to the land of their fathers. It should be noted that these returns do not include the movements of visitors to or tourists in Ireland, but deal only with emigrants, natives of Ireland, who have been in permanent residence in the country, and with immigrants who have come to reside permanently in Ireland.

Mr. Ambrose A. Paoli has been selected as Rhodes Scholar for Prince Edward Island, Canada. He is the fourth Catholic who has been thus honored in that province in recent years.

There is more money saved in buying good Brushware than in any other thing about the house. You find only good Brushware at Smith and Laing's, Invercargill....

What fate is in the word 'farewell'!

It tells of parting, pain, and sad regret.
It sometime sobs the sound of friendship's knell.
Fare well, if spelt this way means otherwise.
Fare well with health, make strength secure,
Rose cheeks, red lips, and dancing eyes
Wrought by Woods' Peppermint Cure.

People We Hear About

Sir John French was born in the same year as General Joffre—1852.

Father Ledochowski is the twenty-sixth General of the Society of Jesus. There are at present in the Order 16,894 members.

Queen Amelie of Portugal has proved herself one of England's best friends since the war began. She works steadily at the headquarters of the Red Cross Society in Pall Mall, and she in every way encourages society women to further the interests of trade, without indulging in extravagant fashions. Owing no doubt to her recent medical activities, she was asked to preside at the annual meeting of the Royal Medical Benevolent Fund Guild, at the Royal College of Physicians in London.

Colonel Patrice de McMahon, of the French Army, who has just been promoted to the rank of General, is the eldest son of the once famous Marshal McMahon, who was President of France, and one of her bravest defenders in the war against the Germans in 1870. The Irish fighting strain evidently persists in the McMahon family, since the new General's brother was also promoted to General's rank since the present war began. General Patrice de McMahon holds the title of Duke of Magenta, conferred on his father for bravery in the field.

In connection with the clergy and the war it is interesting to note that four bishops have been summoned to the French colors. They are Mgr. Ruch, Coadjutor of the Bishop of Nancy, who occupies the post of chaplain-in-chief to an army corps; Mgr. Terrien, Apostolic Vicar of Benin, mobilised at Dakar; Mgr. Perros, Apostolic Vicar of Siam, who is a Sub-Lieutenant of the Reserves now stationed at Besançon; and Mgr. Moury, Apostolic Vicar of the Ivory Coast, who is a soldier of the second class, serving in the Colonial Hospital of Dakar.

The death of Mgr. Laspro, Archbishop of Salerno (says *Rome*), makes Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop of Baltimore, the dean of the whole Catholic Hierarchy—not the dean by age, for that distinction belongs to Mgr. Monnier, Titular Bishop of Lydda, who is 95, but the dean by election, for his Eminence was raised to the episcopate by Pius IX. on March 3, 1868, at a time when a great many of our present bishops were not yet born. He is the first of the little list, now reduced to 20, of living bishops who were appointed by Pius IX., the others of the English-speaking world being Right Rev. Dr. Hedley, Bishop of Newport (July 22, 1873), Most Rev. Dr. Ireland, Archbishop of St. Paul (February 12, 1875), Most Rev. Dr. Redwood, Archbishop of Wellington (March 17, 1874), Most Rev. Dr. Spalding, Titular Archbishop of Scitopohs (November 27, 1876).

The Oratory School at Edgbaston has a remarkable record which sounds almost incredible (remarks the *London Universe*). The total number of boys who have passed through the school since 1884—i.e., thirty years ago—is 550. Of these 40 are dead and 70 are at the school at the present moment. At the beginning of the war, therefore, there were, roughly, 430 as an outside number between the ages of 18 and 40. Of the old schoolboys just over 250 have been or are now serving with the Army or the Navy. Nearly all of these have been to the front or are at the front now. Sixteen have been killed or died of wounds, and 20 more have been wounded. What is perhaps more remarkable is that no fewer than seven old Oratorians are in command of battalions; while one, George Morris, of the Irish Guards, was killed while in command. Taking the average number of boys at the school as 56, it means that there is one colonel in command to every seven boys at school—an almost unbelievable ratio. It is also curious that in Mr. Arthur Pollen and Mr. Hilaire Belloc the Oratory has produced two of the best naval and military critics of the day.

WANTED AN APPRENTICE—None but a lad who will study need apply, and EVERY assistance will be given to such apprentice to qualify.

H. LOUIS GALLIEN, Dispensing Chemist
By Exam.
NORTH-EAST VALLEY DUNEDIN