

## PEOPLE WE HEAR ABOUT

During the peace celebrations of Belgium, King Albert, President Poincare, and Marshal Foch made a special journey to Malines, where, in the presence of an enormous crowd and amid an indescribable manifestation of enthusiasm at the Cathedral, President Poincare invested the intrepid Cardinal Mercier with the French Croix de Guerre.

Rev. Eugene de L. McDonnell, pastor of St. Ignatius' Church, Baltimore, and a noted member of the Society of Jesus, will be relieved of his duties and will sail for Bombay, India, within a few weeks to take up work there (says an exchange of recent date). Father O'Donnell will be one of a party of ten Jesuits of the Maryland-New York province to go to the East. The assignment of the American priests to India is the result of the recent joining of the Bombay province to the Maryland-New York province and the detaching of the Jamaica province from the latter. The Bombay territory was formerly under the control of the German province, and the work of the German Jesuits was brought to a close by their internment, in common with all other people of German parentage, in that region.

Cardinal Mercier's secretary, Rev. Dr. Peter Joseph Strycker, arrived in New York recently from France to arrange for the visit to the United States of the famous Belgian prelate. Dr. Strycker, who is Vice-Rector of the American College, University of Louvain, said Cardinal Mercier would land in New York and would visit Philadelphia, Baltimore, Chicago, Washington, Portland, Ore., and other cities. "Cardinal Mercier," said Dr. Strycker, "is coming to the United States as a representative of the people of Belgium to thank the American people for the part they took in the war. He will visit as many parts of the country as possible and particularly the North-west, a region he has been greatly interested in through the Indian stories told him as a boy by his uncle, Mgr. Croquet." Mgr. Croquet was a missionary in the North-west when that district was mainly inhabited by Indians. In his old age he returned to Belgium and fired the imagination of the future Cardinal with tales of his adventures among the red men whom he had grown to admire. Dr. Strycker will confer with Cardinal Gibbons and Archbishop Hayes of New York, as to the details of Cardinal Mercier's visit.

Abbe Ernest Dimmet, one of the most gifted and facile French writers of English, recently visited the United States. The Abbe is representing Lille University, seeking American aid in its re-establishment. The Abbe Dimmet is professor of English literature at the College Stanislaus, Paris. While in America he will deliver the Lowell lectures at Harvard University (says an exchange). Harvard can pay no higher honor to a foreigner than it has bestowed upon the French priest. Furthermore, the presidents of Yale, Harvard, and Columbia Universities and the rector of the Catholic University of America have promised the Abbe all possible assistance in his mission to secure financial assistance for the rebuilding of Lille. Examinations were still going on at Lille University at the beginning of August, 1914, when, at a single call, every one of its 700 young men students and many of its professors were mobilised. Soon thereafter the Germans took Lille, and held it for more than four years.

Sister Regina, the much beloved member of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, who since 1898 was in charge of the men's hall at St. Vincent's Hospital, Indianapolis, U.S.A., left recently for Carville Island below New Orleans where she will take charge of the work at the Louisiana Leper Home. This is an institution for lepers which is conducted by the devoted Sisters of the Order to which she belongs. The institution is on an island in the Mississippi river 15 miles below New Orleans. There are 86 plague-stricken patients in the colony, and heretofore six Sisters of the Order, under Sister Benedicta, have had charge of the great charity conducted on the

island. The number of lepers has increased and from year to year there has been need of increasing the number of Sisters. It is understood Sister Regina goes to assume charge of the work at the institution succeeding Sister Benedicta who has conducted it for many years. When the Sisters go to this institution they generally expect to spend the remainder of their days there. Rev. A. V. Keenan, of the diocese of New Orleans, is the chaplain in charge of the institution. During her years of service at the hospital Sister Regina attended many famous men, among them Theodore Roosevelt, who, while President of the United States was stricken while in Indianapolis.

### DE VALERA.

*"There's Wine from the royal Pope,  
Upon the ocean green;  
And Spanish Ale shall give you hope,  
My Dark Rosalven."*

—James Clarence Mangan.

Out beneath the night  
And beyond an olive sea,  
I saw a vision white  
As daisies seem to be  
In that country of the Gael  
Where the daisy's petal gleams  
As red as the Spanish Ale  
That Mangan drank in dreams.

And before the night had gone,  
Once more I gazed afar  
Upon a vision wan  
As the many poets are  
Who wear the martyrs' sign  
On wounded bosoms, long  
As red as the Roman Wine  
That gleams in Mangan's song.

But I, who stood in awe  
At the vision strangely seen,  
Know naught of what I saw  
Nor what it all may mean;  
But I know that it was good,  
Being white as a Papal crown  
Yet red as the Spanish blood  
Of this Man from Mangan's town.

—FRANCIS CARLIN.

### MEMORIAL TO IRISH SOLDIERS.

Father Bernard Vaughan, the famous Jesuit pulpit orator of England, has issued the following stirring appeal for a memorial to honor the Irish soldiers who made the supreme sacrifice in the great cause of the world war: "There is a feeling abroad, shared by all who are in any way associated with the Irish regiments which fought in the great war, that some monument should be raised to be a lasting memorial of their bravery, valor, and heroism. It is felt that the memorial should, as far as possible, strike a personal note and should include a full roll call, embracing every man of the Irish regiment, in which he served. What is demanded is a distinctly Irish monument, which shall exclude no soldier who fought and fell in one or other of the 16 Irish regiments which covered themselves with glory in the crusade for right over might. It is felt that as these Irish regiments were made up not only of men from Ireland, but also of Irishmen from Australia and Canada, from New Zealand and South Africa, and of others from the furthest ends of our vast Empire, that their glorious names and splendid deeds must not be forgotten by those for whose hearths and homes they sacrificed their own lives."



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