

these respects simply because they do realise that it helps them to gain influence for their Church. At a congress of Catholic institutions some time ago, one of the leaders having charge of agricultural work exclaimed: What a magnificent wealth of enterprise, as varied as they are numerous! There are our social activities, whose benefits the rural districts are only just beginning to appreciate; and our economic activities, which should win us fresh allies, and give us strength not only to make proselytes in the good cause, but to fight the vast proselytism for evil. We have seen the great extent and power of Catholic enterprises. They have retained whole provinces for us; they have just conquered another; and we hope that ere long they will conquer more. Let us imitate these noble examples, and multiply unions, schools, friendly societies, and co-operative associations.

AN OBJECT LESSON IN CONTINUITY

Few churches in this country (remarks the *London Universe*) can boast such early and sacred associations as St. Mary's, erected at Carlton, near Snaith, in Yorkshire, during 1841-2, from the designs of Messrs. Weightman and Hadfield, of Sheffield, who two years later were the architects of St. John's Cathedral, Salford. A mural tablet recently erected in the porch of this church put on record for the benefit of its numerous non-Catholic visitors, its mediæval, and therefore essentially Catholic and Roman antecedents, and provides us with perhaps a unique example of genuine continuity of faith, in contrast to that suggested by a mere succession of clergy or by identity of structure. This tablet, which is of dark slate, bears the following historical inscription:—

To the greater honor and glory of God, and of the Virgin Mother of our only Redeemer, Jesus Christ, True God and True Man. By a 'Grant' of Pope Boniface IX., given at Saint Peter's, in Rome, during the second year of his Pontificate, as related therein, 'his dear children, the noble Bryant de Stapilton, and all the inhabitants and dwellers at Carlton,' in 1397 were granted their petition that there should 'be canonically built in the same village a Chapel of Ease, in honor and under the name of the Blessed Virgin Mary.' During the 16th century this mediæval chapel, which was eventually razed to the ground, being alienated from its original use, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass continued to be offered, and the Sacraments of the Catholic and Roman Church were secretly administered at Quosque, and also within the sheltering walls of Carlton Hall, now known as Carlton Towers. After three centuries of most cruel persecution, during the Pontificate of Pope Gregory XVI., in 1842, its private chapel was replaced by this public church, also erected under the Roman Obedience, and in honor and under the name of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Its site was the gift of the members of its congregation, and its cost, with that of the presbytery attached, was defrayed in equal parts by donations and subscriptions obtained by its first priest-in-charge, and by a legacy under the will of Lady Throckmorton, *nee* Catharine Stapleton, the relict of Sir George Throckmorton, of Weston Underwood, Bart. Born in 1765, she died at Northampton in 1839, having refounded the missions formerly dependent upon Carlton Hall within the Northern Vicariate, but now in the diocese of Leeds within the Province of Liverpool, created during October, 1911, by Pope Pius X. Upon her, and on all benefactors, God have mercy.

Within the sacred edifice itself are recorded also the names of twenty penal-time clergy, who from 1660 onwards are known to have served this ancient mission, the second being the last of the English Martyrs, the Venerable Thomas Thwing, whose name was so spelt by his cousin and patron, Sir Miles Stapleton, then lord of the manor of Carlton.

These priests, many of them confessors, and one a martyr, are commemorated by a bronze plate, let into a richly moulded black marble tablet, bearing the following inscription, with the names and authenticated dates in parallel columns:—

Recorded Names of Chaplains at
Carlton Hall, During Penal Times,
The Last of Whom Erected this Church, 1841-2.

1660-65.	Rev. John Robinson.
1665-68.	Ven. Thomas Thwing, M.
1668-86.	Rev. John Harper.
1686-93.	Rev. John Edisford, S.J.
1693-1718.	Rev. John Lodge.
1718-66.	Rev. William Hardisty.
1766-68.	Rev. John Nestfield.
1768-73.	Rev. Thomas Meynell, S.J.
1774-81.	Rev. William Allan, S.J.
1781-82.	Rev. Joseph Berrington, D.D.
1782-90.	Rev. George Witham.
1791-97.	Rev. Charles Hoghton.
1797-1802.	Rev. M. P. Fradoulet.
1802-03.	Rev. Wm. A. Longuemere.
1803-08.	Rev. Edward Pitchford.
1808-10.	Rev. Charles Forestier.
1810-22.	Rev. Robert Hogarth.
1823-27.	Rev. John Billington.
1828-29.	Rev. George Bert.
1829-42.	Rev. George Heptonstall.

'Blessed Are They That Suffer Persecution For
Justice's Sake.'

May They Rest in Peace.

The last of these chaplains at Carlton Hall (now Carlton Towers, the residence of Baroness Beaumont, the present representative of the Stapleton family), in 1842 became the first priest-in-charge of St. Mary's, where he died at the presbytery attached as recently as 1875. Eventually a member of the Chapter of Beverley, and later of Leeds, his name and the names of his successors are inscribed on a second tablet, also recently erected in the porch of his church at Carlton, thus completing an authentic clergy list covering a period of over 250 years—the more interesting because during penal times such records were rare, as in themselves affording evidence endangering the lives or liberty of the Catholic clergy then in England.

Oamaru

(From our own correspondent.)

December 31.

A crowded congregation was present at St. Patrick's Basilica on Tuesday night, when the Christmas festival was ushered in by the celebration of midnight Mass. Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay, V.G., was the celebrant, being assisted by Rev. Fathers Farthing and Lynch. A brief but touching sermon appropriate to the festival was preached by the Monsignor. The singing of Gounod's Mass added another success to those already achieved by the choir under the able direction of Mr. Mountfort, and Monsignor Mackay, in the course of his sermon, took the opportunity of giving expression to his own and the congregation's gratitude to the conductor and members of the choir for the painstaking efforts of which the devotional rendering of the music gave evidence. Miss K. Hannon presided at the organ in her usually capable manner. The altar was very tastefully decorated. The Masses celebrated subsequently were all well attended. After the midnight Mass the choir were entertained at supper at the presbytery, when occasion was taken to make a presentation to the conductor on behalf of the choir and friends, this taking the form of a beautiful epergne and handsome silver and oak tray. Monsignor Mackay made the presentation, and congratulatory speeches were made. Mr. Mountfort suitably replied.

News has been received from the Very Rev. Father J. Shiel, Bishop-elect of Rockhampton, to the effect that he is almost completely restored to health. Father Shiel was to spend Christmas with his parents in Dublin, and early in the new year will be consecrated Bishop of Rockhampton, either at Maynooth or Mullingar. He will arrive in Australia in company with Most Rev. Dr. Mannix (Coadjutor-Archbishop of Melbourne) about Easter next.

J. TAIT, Monumental Sculptor { Just over Bridge
and opposite { Manufacturer and Importer of every description
62 CASHEL ST., CHRISTCHURCH. { Drill Shed. } Headstones, Cross Monuments, Etc., in Granite,
Marble and other Stones.