

The Catholic Journal

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AROUND THE GLOBE.

WHAT THE CHURCH IS DOING IN THIS AND OTHER CONTINENTS.

Many Items of General Interest That Will be Appreciated by Our Readers.

Right Rev. T. D. Beaven, D. D., Bishop of Springfield, has made an innovation in diocesan management by appointing a building committee of three prominent clergymen. Under the new order of things any pastor intending to erect any building, the cost of which will exceed \$1,000, or who contemplates making improvements to the extent of that sum, must first submit plans and specifications to the committee, the members of which will examine them and give their opinion of them to the Bishop before the work proceeds.

February brings us lent this year, for Ash Wednesday will fall on the last Wednesday of the month; and that fact will bring Easter on April 10. This is neither late nor early for the latter feast to fall, but about half way between the extreme dates in which it might come. The Ascension will fall on May 19, Pentecost on May 29 and the post-Pentecostal Sundays of this year will number twenty-five.

Bishop Fitzgerald, who celebrated the thirty-first anniversary of his consecration this week, is one of the senior members of our hierarchy, but that he is still vigorous was evidenced by the forcible letter he lately wrote anent the New Orleans appointment. Dr. Fitzgerald went to Arkansas from Ohio, and he was a great admirer of Archbishop Purcell. His diocese is one of the smallest ones in point of population in the country, the Catholics of Arkansas counting less than 12,000, and their being but 41 priests in the state, over half of whom are members of religious orders.

February is consecrated by Catholic piety to devotion towards the Holy Family that dwelt at Nazareth. The principal feasts of the month are St. Ignatius' 1; the Purification, 2; St. Andrew Corsini's, 4; St. John of Matha's 8; St. Cyril of Alexandria, 9; St. Scholastica's 10; St. Catherine of Ricci's 13; St. Valentine's 14; St. Peter's Chair at Antioch, 22, and St. Matthias, 24. Bishops Tierney, Horstmann, Schwebach and Fitzgerald will keep anniversaries of their consecration during the month, and in it Archbishop Williams will commemorate the twenty-third anniversary of his archiepiscopal appointment, Archbishop Gross the thirteenth of his, and Leo XIII. the twentieth of his election to the Papal chair, as well as the fifty-fifth of his episcopal consecration.

Says the Ave Maria: Out of a population of nearly 280,000,000 in India and Ceylon, nearly 2,000,000 are Catholics. Northern India appears to be more sterile in the matter of conversions to the faith than southern India. Ceylon stands ahead of India in this respect. There are twice as many native priests as Europeans, the number of native priests being 1599 and Europeans 796. The work of Catholic education in India is steadily progressing. Among the most flourishing institutions is St. Aloysius' College, Mangalore, which has done much to improve the mental status and elevate the moral character of the natives of the district. The ranks of the professors, by the way, have lately been strengthened by the addition of two priests from America—Fathers Moore and Sullivan, S. J.—in whom literature and science find erudite exponents.

According to the English official Catholic directory for 1898 the Catholic population of the United Kingdom is nearly 5,500,000. Ireland has 3,549,956, England 1,500,000, Scotland 365,000. If there be added to these figures the statistical returns from Australia, India and British America the total Catholic population of the British dominions will be found to be over 10,000,000. In England and Wales there are 17 archbishops and bishops, 2098 priests—an increase of 12 priests since last year—and 1482 churches, chapels and stations—an increase of 19 in twelve months; in Scotland, 7 archbishops and bishops, 421 priests and 350 churches, etc.; There are 27 archbishops and bishops in Ireland. Of the 3119 priests of Great Britain 2181 are of the secular clergy and 938 of the regular clergy. There are 19 Catholic members of the privy council, 31 members of the House of Lords and 73 members of the House of Commons.

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SWEET CHARITY.

A VISIT TO MOUNT LORETTO, STATEN ISLAND, N. Y.

BY EDWARD J. SULLIVAN.

How many there are among the great Catholic element who visit this great metropolis, and how few among those who avail themselves of the pleasure of a visit to our Catholic institutions and witness the magnificent work which has been and is being accomplished for humanity. No doubt each and every city has some institution which appeals to local pride and within whose portals cheer and consolation is meted out to God's poor and afflicted, but in a great city like New York the pinch of want and suffering is perhaps more keenly felt. The cold and cheerless tenement dwellings of the poor only tend to keep alive that suffering. In these pest houses (as numbers of them are) can be found all classes, nationalities and conditions. Let me illustrate this from one single instance which has come under my own observation. Fifteen different nationalities are to be found in one tenement dwelling.

In smaller cities a more neighborly feeling exists, as people are better known to each other, but in such abodes no such condition of things can prevail, hence I repeat, distress is in its worst form. Thanks to the generosity of the citizens every means has been devised to at least lessen this evil. It is not, indeed, my purpose to enter into details of the numerous institutions supported by philanthropic persons, in the brief space of a newspaper article, (as I intend to give the results of my observations at another period in a more extended manner,) but there is one institution I single out in this article which deserves special mention. I refer to the "Mission of the Immaculate Virgin," and St. Joseph's Home for Homeless Children.

Some time ago I received an invitation to visit these homes from their noble hearted and zealous director, Rev. James J. Dougherty, and in company with him I visited the home at Mount Loretto, Staten Island. To meet him is an honor and pleasure, leaving a lasting impression. As we entered the main building devoted to the boys, one glimpse of their good friend was sufficient to arouse them to enthusiasm, and it was one grand hurrah, such as well to do and well cared for boys can give. I can well understand why they gather around him and greet him with such fond embraces. It was with difficulty that he could escape from them. Poor little ones, bereft of father and mother's tender care—poor waifs and outcasts of a city's slums, they have only one whom they can look up to with tender and childish solicitude, the good "sogarth aroon." Well fed, well clothed, amply provided for with every means for recreation, these children have reason to feel happy and grateful. Here and there, rushing hither and thither in their glorious work, were the good sisters who have devoted their lives for humanity. To enter at dinner time and see the hundreds of those children devour the substantial meal is a sight not soon to be forgotten. It is indeed only when we drag our minds away from active life and visit these institutions that we can there and only there realize in a forcible manner the existing distress and the many orphan children left destitute and bereft of a father and mother's care.

This home and the city home were founded by the lamented Father Drumgoole; and who, indeed, has visited this city without paying a visit to No. 2 Lafayette Place, and there seen that noble structure and enduring monument to its saintly founder? In front of the building is a monument erected to him, and he is represented as looking down with an aching heart to the poor children who look up to him with uplifted hands, appealing to him to lift them from the pit of vice and degradation. A worthy memorial to a great man; but more lasting than brass, granite or marble, is the affection of the thousands whom he rescued from vice, despondency and despair, and sent them out into the world with the cross of their faith in one hand and the means and equipment to make an honest and honorable livelihood in the other—trained in their duties towards their faith and country, and with a love and abiding confidence in both.

With prudence and foresight this noble man saw the time was rapidly approaching when it would be necessary to provide greater room and facilities, and on the shores of Long Island, with scenery unsurpassed, he purchased a tract of land and which

now contains 652 acres, being a square mile, with one mile of water front on the ocean. The value of the city house and property is appraised at \$300,000, and that at Mt. Loretto \$600,000. Both properties are out of debt. Father Drumgoole died in 1888, and the good work was undertaken by Father Dougherty, and to his untiring energy and ability is due the flourishing condition in which it exists to-day. Over 2,000 children are cared for annually. The good Father, anxious to erect a temple to God, set himself to work with a tireless will and built a new church 185 feet long and 85 feet wide, costing over \$150,000. The high altar is a memorial donated by the DeConeau family. Later he began the construction of a home for them, which is now well under way—a four story brick building 250 feet long and 80 feet in width, costing \$200,000.

In these homes all the principal trades are taught, such as tailoring, shoemaking, carpenter work, printing, the different arts and languages, and from it are sent out annually numbers of young men competent to fulfill any trust assigned them. This is also true of the professions, and every boy is given full and unlimited opportunity to follow the trend of his own natural tastes and aspirations. What an interesting sight to go through these trade schools—the busy tailors, the shoemakers, the type-setters and pressmen—for even here is printed and published a paper, the "Homeless Child," which finds its way to the uttermost corners of the earth. The same rule applies to the girls, and here they are instructed in every known useful employment, and many of them are proficient in music, painting and other accomplishments. Here, too, farming is made a science, and the land is brought to a state of perfection.

Base ball grounds, foot ball grounds, cricket and every healthy and legitimate athletic exercise is indulged in and encouraged. Swimming is a favorite pastime, and they become experts in this healthy exercise.

In this home these children are grounded in the grand fundamental principles of loyalty to the flag and constitution of the United States, respect for law and order—"Charity towards all and malice towards none."

Now your readers will ask, "How is this all done, and whence is the revenue derived?" I will answer, from the thousands in all parts of the world who contribute the small sum of 25 cents as their subscription for the paper known as the "Homeless Child."

Would to God that those of our faith, aye, and those who differ with us, would visit these institutions, derive a profitable lesson, and come away with a glad heart, as the writer did, and the earnest hope that its noble director will live long to add to the crown of enduring fame he has won from all creeds and classes.

MILLIONS LEFT TO CHARITY.

Requests by Persons Dying in the United States Show an Increase Over the Amounts in Previous Years.

Rev. C. T. Ward, of the Sheltering Arms, N. Y., has prepared comparative tables showing the amount of money left for charitable or benevolent purposes by testators throughout the United States during the past three years. He finds that these bequests for the year 1897 are \$1,000,000 in excess of those for 1896. In 1896 the bequests amounted to \$9,401,500, in 1895 to \$13,112,300 and in 1897 to \$14,374,300.

Of the more than \$14,000,000 bequeathed last year \$6,204,600 was designated for charitable purposes, \$2,878,000 for missionary purposes and \$5,292,200 for educational purposes. The principal testators in 1897 were William Lampton, Le Roy, N. Y., \$500,000; Lewis Crozer, Chester, Pa., \$750,000; George M. Pullman, Chicago, Ill., \$1,336,000; and Charles E. Condit, New York, \$600,000.

The following table shows the amount devoted to church and missionary purposes according to religious denominations.

	1895.	1896.	1897.
Episcopal	\$705,000	\$737,200	\$1,026,000
Congregational	247,000	284,500	481,000
Baptist	101,500	226,800	312,200
Presbyterian	83,700	183,400	265,100
Catholic	56,000	200,000	214,300
Methodist	18,700	67,500	77,000
Reformed	177,900	132,200	87,100
Lutheran	39,000	67,500	77,000
Unitarian	18,700	27,400	73,500
Universalist	18,800	63,500	12,500
New Jerusalem	14,000	26,000	13,000
Christian	47,000	6,000	12,000
Friends	3,000	6,500	2,500
Hebrew	5,500	6,000	2,000
	2,800	4,000	2,000

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WASHINGTON LETTER.

THE DAILY LIFE OF THE POPE.

Dr. Zahn's Book Endorsed by His Holiness—Rev. Hugh Johnson to be Translated.

Special Correspondence of CATHOLIC JOURNAL.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The London Telegraph has a very interesting account of the daily life of his Holiness, Pope Leo. It is briefly summarized as follows: The Pope retires at about midnight and rises at six in the morning after four hours sleep. Immediately on rising he takes coffee and milk with a very small portion of bread. The day's work is then commenced and interrupted about 10 o'clock by the taking of a cup of broth. Between one and two in the afternoon a very light meal is eaten, consisting of clear soup, a very little boiled and roasted meat, one or two vegetables, and fruit. This is always accompanied by a single glass of claret wine especially prepared at convent at Bordeaux.

After this meal comes a siesta taken on a couch and this sleep lasts one hour, making five hours the total in the day devoted to sleep. Then comes a short drive in the Vatican grounds and a longer walk, which is always taken in the company of the prelates and chamberlains in attendance. The afternoon is spent in the gardens where there is a large collection of birds of various kinds and a few animals.

Before dusk work is resumed for some hours, interrupted by a very light evening repast, when His Holiness recites evening prayers to the Pontifical family and retires to his room but not to sleep for it is in these still watches of the night before sleep comes that bring the inspirations in ecclesiastical government and politics, which have made Leo one of the greatest pontiffs ever on the throne. This is the daily routine of life. Visitors are received during the working hours both morning and evening by appointment and made through the chamberlains.

One of the strictest rules of the Vatican etiquette is that none of the high officials of the church shall hold communications with any of the Quirinal officials, or with persons accredited to the court. This rule was violated by Cardinal Vannutelli who lately attended a dinner given by Ambassador Drake of this country. Archbishop Keane also attended this dinner, but as it was given by the representative of his native country, there was no offense in his action. The conditions were different with the Cardinal and it is said he is under grave censure.

Dr. Zahn the founder of the Holy Cross congregation has returned from Rome with the full endorsement by His Holiness of the work accomplished. This includes the endorsement of the book mentioned in our last letter in which Dr. Zahn showed that the doctrine of evolution misinterpreted by its high priests did not conflict with the doctrines of the Christian religion or the truth of the Bible. So convincing was the doctor's work and his exposition of it at the scientific congress at Fribourg, Switzerland, last August that in all that assembly there was but one dissenting voice. Dr. Zahn returns to Notre Dame, Ind., but there is reason to believe that he will be recalled permanently to Rome.

England and the United States are the only great powers who have no direct representative at the Vatican. Great Britain is unofficially represented by the Archbishop of Trevelin who transacts all business between the Vatican and Great Britain. It is intimated that the United States in the near future will probably be represented in a similar manner unless it sends a direct envoy. This latter proposition has been seriously discussed at Washington in official circles.

The Rev. Hugh Johnson pastor of the Metropolitan Methodist church, which President McKinley attended, and who a few weeks ago was so un-Christian as to attack the Catholic church, will it is said, soon be transferred to another charge, as the President did not care to listen to attacks upon so large a body of respectable citizens as constitute the Catholic church in the United States.

One of the notable contributions to the controversy started by Pension Commissioner Evans about fraudulent pensions, is the letter of Captain Patrick O'Farrell. Captain O'Farrell won his rank in the 69th New York one of the notable Irish regiments and carries some scars received during the war. He has for years been a prominent pension and patent attorney in Washington and holds a

license from the Supreme Court of the United States. Naturally the captain did not like being compared by Commissioner Evans to a "buffard" and characterized as all the pension attorneys were as "a varmit." Captain O'Farrell, it is a Republican speaker always in demand during national campaigns and his letter was not only vigorous but well timed. It was first printed in one of the leading papers of New York city and several thousand copies have been issued in circular form for distribution. The letter was addressed and delivered personally to Cardinal M. Blie, secretary of the interior, and it is said was discussed at a cabinet meeting.

POPE LEO AT HOME.

An American Woman's Audience with the Venerable Pontiff.

The strong interest which attaches itself to Pope Leo and to the Vatican makes especially readable "A Private Audience With the Pope," in the February "Ladies Home Journal." It is from the pen of Miss Merrill, an American woman, and is cleverly descriptive. "As the Pope entered the room all present knelt," she says, and goes on to explain: "We had no definite idea of the etiquette of the occasion, so we proceeded as we thought best. He came to our party almost at once, and addressed us first. He speaks French to the general public; to the priests he speaks Latin. Six priests kept close to the Pope as he moved about the room. One of them was an interpreter, who supplied the missing links in the conversation if necessary. In order, I suppose, to make the occasion less tedious to the Pope. However, the Holy Father spoke distinctly and slowly, and in spite of the excitement of the moment we were able to understand all that he said.

"Pope Leo XIII. looks very old, very feeble, with that pallid complexion to age; his eyes are black and shining, but withal kindly; his hair, white and noble brow would make one feel a feeling of reverence even if he were not a Pope. He is of medium height, and his shoulders are a little rounded, as might be in one who looks down from such an elevation as his. His smile—that very much talked-of smile—his benign. He wears a light red robe of the most beautiful texture. This was closely buttoned to his feet. Over this was a pure white garment made of some soft material, and it is in this that most of his photographs are taken. On his head he wore the small skull-cap called the "mozzetta." It, too, is pure white. There is a tassel hanging down to one side. The thought that Pope Leo for centuries had been wearing garments precisely similar to these lent an added interest to this quiet person, moving so unobtrusively around among his guests. On his hands he wore mitts of white wool."

On Children's Reading.

Some people congratulate themselves when their children take to reading. But they sometimes forget that a boy is not necessarily a mischief maker when he is absorbed in a book. Much depends upon the character of the books and papers he reads. If he revels in such papers as the Police News, the Detective on the Wire and the New York Family Story Paper, or in such books as "Paddy Bad Boy," "New York Kid in California," "Deadwood Dick in Dead City" and "The Wild Man of the Mountain," he is in far worse business than if he allowed the doors and arranged the rugs and mat and down the stair-rail or went tearing over the carpet with his roughshoes.

Indian hunters, desperadoes, highway robbers, pirates, runaway boys, snake charmers, gamblers and thugs are no better company in papers and books than in every day life. If reading serves only to introduce one into disreputable society or to familiarize one with slang, cheating and fighting, or inculcate wrong views of life, it is better that one remain forever an ignoramus. We should avoid the bad book or bad paper as we would a bad man or woman.—Self Culture.

Of the seven Democratic Mayors who have held office in New York in the last twenty-five years, three were Catholics and four non-Catholics. The Catholics were William R. Grace, Hugh J. Grant and Thomas A. Gilroy. The non-Catholics were Charles Ely, Edward Cooper, Franklin Edson and Abram S. Hewitt.

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MOTHER BLISS.

FOUNDER OF THE HOMELESS CHILD.

Sketch of Her Life and Work.

Published by the Catholic Journal.

Mother Blissy, nee Mary Ann, nee of the Homeless Child, died Sunday night at 10 o'clock, aged 79 years. She had been ill for the past three years, and her death was due to heart disease. She was born April 19, 1819, in Maryland. In 1841 entered the order of Charity in Baltimore. She was the first mission in Pittsburgh, Pa., 1842. She was a devoted mother and a noble woman. She was the founder of the Homeless Child, which is now one of the largest and most successful institutions of its kind in the world. She was a woman of great faith and courage, and her life was a constant struggle for the betterment of the human race. Her death is a great loss to the Catholic community, and her memory will be long and fondly remembered.

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