

### Correspondence

**LIMA.**  
The mass St. Patrick's day will be celebrated at 9 o'clock.  
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Lockington are rejoicing over the arrival of a young son.  
Miss Mary Gaskin, who has been ill for the past three months, has gone to the city hospital for treatment.  
The many subscribers to the Catholic Journal in Lima were gratified with the special Progress number of the paper and wish to extend congratulations to the Journal and best wishes for its continued success in the future.  
Mr. Simon Malone has been appointed trustee in St. Rose's church in place of Michael Ryan deceased.

**CANANDAIGUA.**  
Prayer: were offered Sunday for Mrs. Robert Hogan of Penn Yan; Matthew Haloran; of Buffalo; Robert Carroll, of Wisconsin, and Mrs. Ellen Powers.  
The sermon Wednesday evening was delivered by the Rev. John B. Sullivan, of Corpus Christi church, Rochester.

The drama, "Rebecca's Triumph" was presented at Bemis Hall, Friday evening by the Sodality Young Ladies. Miss Marie McKinstry recited "The Fighting Race."  
The subscription last Sunday amounted to \$837.

The Young Defenders will receive next Sunday.  
The pastor suggested to the congregation Sunday the propriety of establishing memorials in the new church of former pastors in the shape of stations or stained glass windows.

To-day, St. Patrick's Day, will be observed by a high mass at 9 o'clock with appropriate sermon.  
Mrs. Edward Hogan's anniversary was observed Tuesday morning.

**AUBURN.**  
The choir of St. Mary's church is busily engaged in making the preparation for the coming minstrel show which will be given in Music hall on May 3rd. The affair will be in charge of Messrs. Hazton and Murphy of the choir. The show will be followed by dancing.

The Algonquin Club, which is composed of well known young Catholic men, will give an Easter Dancing Carnival at Music Hall Easter Monday. Several prizes will be given for the best dancers and costumes.

Mrs. Stephen J. Murphy, organist of St. Mary's church, will undergo an operation in New York city the first part of next week. Her many friends hope for her early recovery from the operation.

The several choirs of the city are busy rehearsing their Easter music. Several new masses are to be rendered.  
There will be a retreat during Holy week at St. Mary's church by one of the missionary fathers. The retreats at St. Mary's are always successful and this year is hoped will be likewise.

The death of Miss Elizabeth McGarr occurred at the family home in Owaseo on Tuesday afternoon. The funeral was held Friday from St. Mary's church.

### BAKER THEATRE

Many pleasant recollections will be revived by the Moore Stock Company's next week's offering at the Baker Theatre, "The Silver King". This is one of the best and most popular of the dramas in existence to-day, a fact that is proven by the heavy advance sale of seats already for next week's production. This is a play that runs the whole gamut of human emotions—from laughter to tears, from hisses to cheers—its audience following the fortunes of the players with varying feelings of sympathy, hatred, envy, jealousy, and fear for their safety. It is principally for this reason that it is so popular—a play that works on the emotions so strongly cannot fail to enjoy a long life. The usual matinees will be given on Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. On Monday afternoon post card souvenirs of Frederic Malcolin, the new member of the company who is already so popular, will be given away.

### NATIONAL THEATRE.

The National Theatre will have for its offering on next Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday Miss Jane Corcoran in "Frances Aymar Mathew's" new play "Pretty Peggy". The story of the play tells of the vicissitudes, joys, and sorrows of Peg Woffington. There are many exciting situations and climaxes that hold the audience spellbound, but it never becomes melodramatic.  
"How Hearts Are Broken", the latest success in the sensational field is spoken of as a play and production worthy of more than passing notice. The story is woven around a young daughter of a poor fisherman who is induced to enter into a secret marriage with a gliding chap, who has painted, in glaring colors, a false picture of life as his wife in the great cities of which she knows nothing. This play will be seen at the National next week Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

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Subscribe for the Journal.

### IN THE PHILIPPINES

#### THE LACK OF PRIESTS AND DISTRESS OF THE CHURCH.

There is Only One Priest For Every 7,000 Catholics—Some Parishes of 40,000 Have but One Priest, and Many Parishes Are Without Priests.  
Very Rev. John B. McGinley, D. D., of Philadelphia contributes to the Annals of the Propagation of the Faith an article of absorbing interest on the "Need of Priests in the Philippines."  
Dr. McGinley's credentials are his term of service as rector of the diocesan college and seminary of the Immaculate Conception, Vigan, diocese of Nueva Segovia. He speaks as one having authority, on the Catholic Transcript. His eyes have seen and his ears have heard the cry for priests going up from our new possessions.  
Writes Dr. McGinley:  
"What is the actual state of things? Here are a few statistics which will furnish an answer better than any general statement of mine. These figures are taken from the reports made by the bishops at the end of last year, as published in Wiltzius' Catholic Directory. The diocese of Nueva Segovia, with a population of 700,000, has 107 priests. Jaro has 108 priests and 1,331,194 people. In Cebu there are 188 priests to attend to 2,145,879 souls. Manila seems better off. It has 424 priests and 1,891,828 Catholics, but most of these priests are engaged in educational and other nonparochial work. The totals for Nueva Segovia are not given by Wiltzius' Directory, but I know that last March the priests of that diocese numbered 94. The population is about 1,000,000."  
The estimated Catholic population of the archipelago is somewhat over 7,000,000. The people are scattered over 1,400 islands, enjoying the blessings of civilization to a greater or less degree and speaking many dialects. According to all reports, the period of disturbance that succeeded the overthrow of the Spanish domination has not been followed by absolute peace. Out of joint as is the state, the Church herself is suffering from all the ills consequent on the gradual departure of the friars and the inroads of the schismatic Aglipay and his cohorts. The crying need of the islands is an army of priests. Dr. McGinley sums up the situation graphically when he says:  
"Nine hundred and nineteen priests for 6,500,000 souls. In other words, the priests do not average one for 7,000 persons. Who will say that we have too many priests in the United States? And yet the diocese of Chicago has one priest for about 1,700 Catholics; in New York there is one for every 1,650, in Philadelphia one for every 944, and for the whole United States the ratio is one for about every 650. Is it, then, unreasonable to say that to man adequately the parishes of the Philippines there should be at least seven times as many priests—i. e., 6,300 instead of 900?"  
"One need not have visited the Philippines to guess the consequences of this scarcity of priests. Parishes without number have no pastors. Numerous missions are dependent upon parish priests, unable to attend to the faithful under their immediate jurisdiction. Dr. McGinley gives us a glimpse of the religious destitution when he states:  
"Even in the parishes that possess a resident priest there is in most instances a woeful spiritual destitution. For how can one man attend to the spiritual needs of 10,000 souls? But many parishes have 20,000, some 30,000. I know one with 40,000. How can a solitary priest hear confessions or attend to the sick of such a multitude? Sick calls alone would exhaust the endurance of the most robust. I have often seen the dying carried on a bamboo stretcher to the priest's house to be anointed."

#### Cook Opera House.

All next week at Cook's, with a daily matinee, the Twelve Navajo Girls in the most gorgeous musical novelty ever in vaudeville will be seen. It is a whole show in itself with three scenes. The biggest and most splendid "girl act" yet. The rest of the bill includes: Throne and Carleton, the quaint comedians in one of their delightful comedy skits. Eva Westcott and company in a one-act dramatic sketch. Quigley Brothers, you know them. Tyce and Jermon, a somewhat unusual act in which two young women entertain with stories and songs. Toto a fantastic musical Pierrot who constantly surprises you. Tom Browne is a mighty clever entertainer. The kinetograph will show new pictures and the Kita Benzai Troupe of Japanese acrobats, gymnastic novelty direct from Japan.

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### SEE OF NEW ORLEANS

#### BISHOP BLENK TO BE THE NEW HEAD OF THE ARCHDIOCESE.

The Life and Work of the Distinguished Ecclesiastic Who Has Been Selected to Succeed the Late Lamented Archbishop Chapelle.

Commenting on the selection of the Most Rev. Bishop Blenk of Porto Rico as successor to the late lamented Mgr. Chapelle as archbishop of New Orleans, the Times Democrat of that city pays this tribute to Bishop Blenk and his work:  
Bishop Blenk is considered by New Orleans Catholics an ideal appointment for this high position. He is forty-nine years of age, of splendid physique, eminent in scholarship, of unflinching devotion to his calling and loyalty to his Church, but with a breadth of sympathy, a variety of experience and an understanding of human life which put him into harmonious touch with every soul he meets. He has the frank, happy manner of youth, the wisdom of a man of the world, the dignity of a great soul and the modesty of a humble follower of the lowly Nazarene.  
Bishop Blenk has been filling a hard field in Porto Rico, and it is doubtful if any other man could have accomplished what he has done there. No one but he and the late Archbishop Chapelle has known just exactly the obstacles he has had to encounter in the building up of the faith there along the line of separation of church and state. When he leaves for his new field of work, which he made not the least effort to get for himself, the "well done, good and faithful servant," will be written in the spiritual and educational institutions which have grown under his hands and will ever keep his memory green in the island of Porto Rico.

Bishop James Hubert Blenk was born Aug. 4, 1857, in Germany. His parents emigrated to New Orleans when he was an infant in arms and died shortly afterward, leaving him an orphan. He was taken into the heart and home of a pious family named Groetsch and in their zeal consecrated to the priesthood. Like Samuel, he was offered to his God and, like Samuel, has served Him zealously and eminently. He was educated in the schools of New Orleans, where his boyhood days are affectionately remembered by scores of people yet living who loved the kindly little lad for his sterling worth. He was given the best education it was possible to give him in Catholic institutions until he was ready for Jefferson college, in St. James parish. He had already resolved to enter the priesthood, but taught for three years previous to beginning the novitiate of the Society of Mary. From Jefferson college he went to France to study philosophy at Belley. He entered the Marist novitiate at Lyons and after completing the probationary period was sent by his superiors to Dublin to follow a course of science and higher mathematics in the Catholic university of Ireland, where he made a brilliant record. From the Catholic university Father Blenk went to St. Mary's college, Dundalk, Ireland, where he occupied the chair of mathematics, afterward returning to the Marist house in Dublin, where he completed his theological studies and won first honors.

Aug. 16, 1885, he was raised to the priesthood by Archbishop Redwood, S. M., of New Zealand, and in October of the same year returned to Louisiana to labor among his own people. He was appointed to the professorship of Jefferson college and in 1891 became its president. In 1890, at the invitation of the superior of the Marist Order, he took a trip abroad and visited a number of the community houses in England and Ireland. Returning to New Orleans in February, 1897, he took charge of the Church of the Holy Name of Mary in Algiers. The appointment was peculiarly pleasing to Father Blenk because of the opportunity it gave him to do pastoral work. His success in the parish of Algiers does not need to be recited in detail.

Archbishop Janssens had the highest regard for him as a man and as a priest, and for six years he was on the archbishop's board of consultors. Archbishop Chapelle had it in his power to express his appreciation of the ability of Father Blenk in selecting him as auditor of the delegation to Cuba and Porto Rico. He accompanied the archbishop on his mission, and so acceptably performed his task that he was recommended for the see of Porto Rico, to which the late Pope Leo XIII. appointed him. Bishop Blenk was consecrated in the St. Louis cathedral in July, 1898.  
Bishop Blenk has visited Washington several times in connection with his difficult mission in Porto Rico. He was warmly liked by the late President McKinley and as cordially received by President Roosevelt. It is said that Mr. Roosevelt at a public dinner in New York city referred to Bishop Blenk as an "ideal bishop."

The Vatican Pictures.  
His Holiness has decided upon changes in the Vatican, including the removal of the famous picture gallery from the present quarters, which were provisionally chosen at the instance of Pope Pius VII. by Antonio Canova, the sculptor, and Cardinal Consalvi. The present quarters are above the hall of the consistory, and the pictures are believed to be in danger of being burned should a fire break out at any of the functions held there.  
The Pope has chosen for the new gallery a room in the wing of the Vatican adjacent to the library. Not more than fifty persons will be allowed in it at one time.

#### The Avignon Papal Palace.

The fine old palace of the popes in Avignon, France, on the Rhone is to be rescued from the degradation it has suffered for almost a century. It will no longer be used as a barracks, but will be converted into a museum of religious art. The troops, mostly infantry, are ordered to vacate the great building. When they are gone the intersecting partitions and walls which since 1815 have cut the once splendid salons and halls into squalid rooms will be removed. The old papal chapel, the hall of conclaves and the private apartments will be reconstructed and arranged as they were in the time of Gregory XII, the last pope who dwelt at Avignon. The magnificent frescoes will be restored, the vandal-like damage done by the typhs will be repaired, and again the sweet odor of sanctity will penetrate the palace and atmosphere for the objects which will be exhibited there.

#### Catholic Converts League.

The Catholic Converts league held its annual meeting recently at the Catholic club, New York city. The features of the evening were two addresses by Rev. B. Stuart Chambers of the Church of the Blessed Sacrament, New York, and Rev. Alexander P. Doyle, C. S. P., of the Apostolic Mission House at Washington. Twenty-six new members were received into the league during the last session of the Catholic Summer school. The membership is now 626, an increase of fifty-one since the last annual meeting. Eight members were lost by death—Rev. T. C. P. Fox, O. M. I., Major John Byrne, Miss M. Williams, Miss Florence Irwin, Miss M. Miller, Miss C. H. Fernall, Charles W. Evans and Miss Mary A. Moore. The league is represented in twenty-two states and sixty-eight cities of this country, also in London, Rome, Egypt and China.



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Mohair Sicilians, in plain and the popular check effects, many of the grays which are so much sought after this season from 50c to \$1.50.

Gray Suitings, in an endless variety of stripes, checks, overplaids and plain Panamas, from 75c to \$2.00.

Wool Batiste, 38 to 45 in. wide, in gray, navy, brown, Alice blue, roseda, tan, castor, myrtle and old rose, from 60c to \$1.00.

Henriettas of imported and domestic make, full range of street and evening shades, from 50c to \$1.00.

Plain Black Panamas, in medium and chiffon weights, 44 to 48 in., from 75c to \$1.25.

Black Wool Voiles, in the crisp, bright finish of handsome shadow check and plain mesh from 75c to \$1.50.

Black Silk Voiles, in plain and check effects, at \$2.00 and \$2.50.

Black Armures, 40 to 45 in. wide, beautiful cool black, at \$1.00 and \$1.25.

Black Satin Finish Prunellas, 40 to 52 in. wide, treated in such a manner that it renders them spotless, from 85c to \$1.20.

Black Batiste, 36 to 45 in. wide, chiffon weight, one of the season's most desirable dress fabrics, from 50c to \$1.50.

Black Indian Twill Serges, 42 to 54 in wide, from 50c to \$1.75.

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