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Catholic Messenger.

"HOW BEAUTIFUL ARE THE FEET OF THEM THAT BRING GLAD TIDINGS OF GOOD THINGS!"

NEW ORLEANS, SUNDAY MORNING, JULY 31, 1870.

THE MORNING STAR has been started with the approval of the ecclesiastical authority of the Diocese, to supply an admitted want in New Orleans, and is mainly devoted to the interests of the Catholic Church.

Approval of the Most Rev. Archbishop: We approve of the aforesaid undertaking, and commend it to the Catholics of our Diocese.

J. M. ARCHBISHOP OF NEW ORLEANS. December 18, 1867.

Irish Prisoners in English Jails.

No person with a heart susceptible to the slightest human sympathy can read without righteous indignation the treatment which the unfortunate Fenian prisoners have received at the hands of their brutal British jailers. Every step since the conviction of these men has been one of cowardly timidity alternated with acts which challenged the scrutiny of the world, as if in defiance of those humanizing influences which are supposed to govern men in a state of civilization.

But a still more iniquitous case remains to be stated. A man whose real name was Darragh, but who was entered in the prison list, and prosecuted, convicted and sentenced as Pherson Thompson, was tried for taking part in the rescue at Manchester, which led to the violent death of the police officer in charge of the prison Black Maria.

College Examination.

Bay St. Louis, July 20th. Editors Morning Star and Catholic Messenger: To me there is no subject so full of interest and real intellectual gratification as the examinations or exhibitions of schools and colleges.

These thoughts were rapidly passing through my mind as I was seated at the examination of the pupils of St. Stanislaus Commercial College, last week. The exercises this year, it is said, and I think, with truth, surpassed all previous years in the proficiency manifested by the students, and the general interest awakened.

There were also beautiful morceaux on piano and violin by the talented young performers, L. Mezier, J. Saucier and Ed. Baylie. I could not think of intruding on your columns a detailed account of the three days' examination, suffice to say, they were creditable to the students and commendable to the high reputation justly enjoyed by the college.

The general and affectionate president, Brother Florimond, was to be seen everywhere, consulting for the comfort of all, and bore on his pleased countenance evidence that told everything was passing off to his entire approval.

In going round the college on an exploration of enquiry, we found two rooms handsomely fitted up for the chemical laboratory, just received from New York. The president seems determined to make this a first class college.

CONVERSION OF THE JEWS.—The missions for the conversion of the Jews to Protestant Christianity, which at one time were so popular in England, seem to be on the wane, as they are so barren of results.

The Surprise of Cremona.

John Cornelius O'Callahan has just completed his "History of the Irish Brigades in the Service of France," which has been a labor of love with the author, entailing vast labor, and a research which rendered necessary the exploration of many continental libraries and the inspection of thousands of MSS.

The surprise of Cremona is among the most interesting of military stories. In this campaign there were four Irish battalions, under the Duke of Berwick, Lord Galway, Colonel Bourke, Colonel Dillon, and Colonel Sheldon. Of these, but two battalions, in all 600 men, were in Cremona.

The Duke's Major-General was also taken prisoner. The first French colonel who came to his post with his regiment was overpowered and slain. The next was mortally wounded. The governor of the city was equally unfortunate. Officers of rank were captured, and no hope remained to the betrayed citizens, save the 600 Irishmen.

One gentle brother, who presides over the musical department, must not be forgotten; for much of the pleasure of the evening was due to his musical genius; and a genius for music he undoubtedly possesses.

PURCHASING SOULS.—During a late debate in the House of Lords, on the second reading of the benefices bill, a member said it was a thing to be deprecated that a clergyman might find himself in charge of a parish of 1,000 or 5,000 souls, for no other reason than that he had gone into the market and bought the property; and the Duke of Marlborough said the traffic in benefices was a scandal to the church of England.

Wealth of English Bishops.

We got the following details respecting the wealth of English Bishops from a letter of the New York World's correspondent, of a recent date. We need hardly state that the property and incomes referred to were originally Catholic, and that when Catholic incumbents filled the sees named, that property and income were expended in a way to glorify God in aiding the poor:

Every little while something occurs to point a moral and adorn a tale. For instance, the will of the late Bishop of Bath and Wells was proved the other day in the London court. There was a million of people in England to-day who are famishing for the bread of life as well as for the bread that is made of wheat; and here is the last testament of one of their shepherds—a man who, at his consecration as a bishop, swore that "by the help of God" he would "be merciful for Christ's sake" to poor and needy people, and to all strangers destitute of help; and that he would "deny all ungodliness and worldly lust."

He had been as mindful of his vow to be merciful for Christ's sake to poor and needy people, and to deny all worldly lust, that when he came to die he found that he had saved up £120,000 of the money that he had spent in providing for those poor and needy people who were his sons and daughters and his sons-in-law and daughters-in-law. How did he dispose of this wealth? Did he give it back to the poor in any way?—did he bestow it upon hospitals or refuges, or even leave it for the building of churches? No; so had he learned Christ!

He who gets angry in discussion while his opponent keeps cool, holds the hot end of the poker.

Ignatius Loyola and the Early Fenian.

To-day the Church celebrates the Feast of St. Ignatius, one of the greatest of her saints, and while noting the fact, we would make it the occasion to say that a new life of the great founder has been written by Mr. Stewart Rose, and published by the Longmans, London. We copy from an English contemporary the following notice of the work:

The author's motto, "parvum ingenium, signum reverentiam" is illustrated on every page, and in every line the writer's heart seems to dictate the words which the pen traces. As might be expected from such dispositions, the public is offered a thoroughly interesting and snobbish narrative, full of soul and affection, reflecting unmistakably a highly cultivated mind and a character capable of appreciating its subject. The author never fails to explain the action of the saint by a previous reference to the state of the times in which he moved; the great questions of the day, the religious agitations in Germany, in Italy, the contemplated reforms within the Church with or without a Council, the serious abuses which had prevailed in the times in which he lived, and that the general portrait should be so accurately drawn is a matter of sincere congratulation.

One of the best features in this splendid volume is a large introduction of the letters written by St. Ignatius. The transfer of this practice from profane to religious biography is much to be commended. It shows us that the Saints were not men, to use a homely phrase, walking in the air; we see the traces of their humanity, and it is a principle of ordinary necessities and duties of every man in this world. We are better able to appreciate the great and simple truth taught us by the masters of a spiritual life, that perfection consists not in doing extraordinary things, but in doing our ordinary actions and duties perfectly.

CONSTANTINOPLE TO BE REBUILT BY AN IRISHMAN.—We see it stated that steps are being taken to repair the loss caused by the recent tremendous conflagration at Pera, and that a Mr. Quin, a native of Queen's county, but a prominent contractor in Dublin, has undertaken, in conjunction with some Belgian friends, to send out a staff of men, with ample means and materials to rebuild the portion of Stamboul destroyed by fire.