

The Catholic World.

FRANCE.—The Alleged Visions at Tilly: Directions to a Bishop.—The Congregation of the Holy Office, having examined the documents forwarded by the Bishop of Bayeux regarding the visions which were reported to have taken place at Tilly-sur-Teulles, has published the following decree:—"The bishop must endeavour to avoid all that may seem a direct or even indirect approval of the visions or the pilgrimages, etc. He must further inform the faithful, through some Catholic newspaper, that it is for the ecclesiastical authority alone to give judgment in this matter, and that there is a vigorous obligation of conforming to that judgment when it is pronounced. Meanwhile he is to prohibit clerics from entering into any investigation in the matter. With regard to the withdrawal of the statue, he must decide in his prudence if that step is opportune, and at what moment it may be suitable to take it.—(Signed) L.M. Card. PAROCHET."

The "Te Deum" in the Churches.—Every Church has had its "Te Deum" in thanksgiving for the Franco-Russian alliance. Remote country places have not been behind the capital. But while the different churches of Paris have each celebrated the thanksgiving service after its own manner, the ceremonies ordered by the Cardinal-Archbishop took place at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at Montmatre. This roused the ire of the Radical Press, and the curious spectacle was seen of prominent Radicals and Freethinkers, who dislike churches in general, taking up arms for the Cathedral of Notre Dame on the ground that the ceremony should have taken place there. At the same time they took the opportunity of calling the Basilica of Montmatre "the bazaar of the Fathers of the Assumption." The answer to this was that the so-called "Bazaar of the Assumption," or, in other words, the magnificent Church of the National Vow, represents in a religious sense the whole French nation, and not a town or a parish. Accordingly the thanksgiving service was celebrated there with *ecclat*. These religious manifestations have extended over a fortnight. The "Te Deum" ceremony at the parish church at Lourdes was the occasion of an interesting demonstration in memory of the Abbé Peyramall, curé of Lourdes, at the time of Bernadette Soubirons. The procession, starting from the church and including the Mayor and Municipal Council, went to the tomb of the Abbé Peyramall in the crypt of the new church. There the "De Profundis" was sung and the people were called upon to contribute to the completion of the church in memory of their revered pastor. "We will! We will!" was heard on all sides. The Abbé Peyramall's memory is not only held in veneration by the people of Lourdes, but the man himself is looked upon as a saint. It may be remembered that he was Bernadette's protector at the beginning of her mission, when she was hardly believed in, and when the civil authorities threatened to harass her family. "They shall walk over my body," he said, "before they enter the Soubirons' house." He had said also: "Little one, if you are deceiving us, you will never see the Blessed Virgin in Heaven." This was said half playfully and to test the child, for in reality he had believed in Bernadette from the first without waiting for the last word of the celestial message, "I am the Immaculate Conception."

ITALY.—In the cause of Religious Freedom.—The anti-clerical newspapers of Italy have one after the other published the information that, pressure having been brought to bear on the Marquis di Rudini to prohibit all Catholic assemblies and processions on the ground that they tend only to ferment party spirit, the Premier is at present considering the means of carrying out this project. The Catholic Press, however, shows itself but little concerned with these rumours. It is absurd to say that the exercise of religion is a party display, and, besides, the Catholics have proved themselves so determined of late in vindicating their right to the open display of their sentiments that no Government that did not positively court trouble would now think of attempting coercive measures against them. In accordance with the present law the priests are obliged to give the police authorities notice of their intention of holding a procession some time before the day fixed for it. To give evidence of their resolution and their spirit of union a large number of the parish priests have now decided to send in all their announcements at the beginning of the year.

ROME.—The Promise of a Consistory.—Although nothing authoritative or certain has been given out, there is no great improbability in the revived rumour of the nearness of a Consistory. It is stated that the French Cardinals created in the spring of the year will receive the hat before its close, most probably in November. The new creations announced in the same way as the Consistory itself refer to a new Spanish Cardinal in succession to the late Cardinal Monescillo, and to two new French Cardinals, or at least to one. This creation would make a Cardinal resident in Curia, and in connection with it the same names are mentioned as on past occasions, those of Père Eschbach, the Superior of the French Seminary; M. Captier, Superior-General of St. Sulpice; and Mgr. Mourey, Auditor of the Rota for France. It is also stated, and this time with particular likelihood, that a new Cardinal will be made in the Roman Curia. The prelates nearest to this dignity and most mentioned in the connection are Mgr. Ciasca, O.S.A., Secretary of the Sacred Congregation of Propaganda; Mgr. Genuari, Assessor of the Holy Office; and Mgr. Della Volpe, Majordomo.

Copt Visitors.—Amongst those who were recently granted the favour of an audience with the Pope were some nuns from the Copt Church in Egypt. The Mother Superior with her assistant and the Rev. Mothers of the different English and Egyptian communities were present. These zealous nuns have laboured very energetically in spreading the faith amongst the Copts. Two young girls have already joined their schools, and several others are preparing to follow. The Holy Father gave the nuns a most cordial welcome. On the same day, Ramsis Gress Bey, a noble Copt, was received in

audience. He told the Pope a painful story of the struggle the zealous missionaries have to make against want and penury of every sort. The missionaries had themselves not complained and the true difficulties of their condition were consequently unknown to the Pope. On hearing of them for the first time, the Holy Father promised to take immediate steps to aid, as far as money advances are useful, the action of the priests who are spending their lives to recall the Copts to union with their legitimate head, the Vicar of Christ.

HOKITIKA.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

November 13, 1897.

It is always a source of great pleasure to those professing the least spark of Catholicity to see the names of our Catholic children standing forth so prominently in the numerous public examinations held at various times throughout the Colony. The results of these public examinations, which are the tests of ability of all the children (regardless of creed), should prove ample refutation to the arguments of those sceptics who deride the soundness of secular education imparted in Catholic schools. Blinded by their bigotry these worldly-wise mortals consider that when a knowledge of the Creator of all things enters into the education of youth, secular knowledge, which is their all in all, is impossible, or, at most, of a very superficial kind. The struggle so long and so persistently continued by our Catholic communities to provide our children with a good secular and religious education, which will fit them for the battle of life and prepare them for the enjoyments of the life to come, will, I hope, soon have its effect on the Government of the country, and cause them to rectify the wrongs and oppression we have so long laboured under in this "free and liberal" country. To bring this to an early issue all that is necessary is the co-operation of our wavering brothers, who, in spite of all warnings and exhortations, persist in sending their children to godless schools, to the danger of both their own and children's immortal souls. Seeing as they must that our Catholic schools compare most favourably with State-aided schools, let me once more urge those Catholic parents who have been lax in the past, to send their children to their own schools, and thus relieve themselves of grave responsibilities. When a public examination is on the tapis our little town is on the *qui vive*, and the good Sisters of Mercy, who have the care of both boys and girls, deserve the highest commendation for their devoted and tireless attention bestowed in imparting the requisite knowledge. The following results of the drawing examinations, held at Hokitika on September 1st in connection with the School of Arts, Wellington, obtained by the local convent schools and the branch houses at Kanieri and Kumara, reflect great credit on the teachers and pupils, as it is the first time anything of the kind has been attempted by them.

FREEHAND.

Edgar McDonald, St. Mary's School, Hokitika, good; Walter Smith, St. Mary's School, Hokitika, pass; Leo J. Daly, St. Mary's School, Hokitika, pass; F. Sellars, St. Mary's School Hokitika, pass; Robert Ross, St. Mary's School, Hokitika, pass; Christina Hayes, St. Mary's School, Hokitika, pass; Katie O'Connor, St. Mary's School, Hokitika, pass; John Burns, St. Joseph's School, Kanieri, pass; Mary O'Donnell, St. Joseph's School, Kanieri, pass; Jane Bourke, St. Mary's High School, Hokitika, pass; Maggie Dee, St. Mary's High School, Hokitika, pass; Mary Ann Dee, St. Mary's High School, Hokitika, pass; Ruby Burns, St. Mary's High School, Hokitika, pass.

SCALE.

Maimie Moynihan, St. Patrick's School, Kumara, good; George Gilbert, St. Patrick's School, Kumara, pass; Thomas Gilbert, St. Patrick's School, Kumara, pass; Michael Murphy, St. Patrick's School, Kumara, pass; Maggie Coll, St. Patrick's School, Kumara, pass; Mary McCormick, St. Patrick's School, Kumara, pass; Edmund Galligan, St. Patrick's School, Kumara, pass; W. Hassall, St. Patrick's School, Kumara, pass.

GEOMETRICAL.

George Gilbert, St. Patrick's School, Kumara, excellent; Thomas Gilbert, St. Patrick's School, Kumara, excellent; Michael Murphy, St. Patrick's School, Kumara, excellent; Arthur Burger, St. Patrick's School, Kumara, good; Ernest McDonald, St. Mary's School, Hokitika, good; Monica Hartnett, St. Mary's High School, Hokitika, good; Maggie Brooks, St. Mary's High School, Hokitika, good; John Burns, St. Joseph's School, Kanieri, good; Janie Burke, St. Mary's High School, Hokitika, pass; Michael Daly, St. Joseph's School, Kanieri, good; Ruby Burns, St. Mary's High School, Hokitika, pass; Eugene McCormick, St. Joseph's School, Kanieri, pass; Sophia Caldwell, St. Patrick's School, Kumara, pass; Maggie Coll, St. Patrick's School, Kumara, pass.

BRANCH of the LONDON DENTAL INSTITUTE, on the ground and first floors of the Government Life Insurance Buildings revolutionising dentistry. Sets from three guineas are supplied. First prize gold medal teeth at half the usual cost, guaranteed ten years; money refunded if work not satisfactory; a nurse in attendance for ladies; the latest appliances. The residing principal studied under Dr Tatton, of the Great Northern Hospital, London University, and has the highest qualifications.—[ADVT]