

Arabia. Some years ago he became a convert to the Catholic faith, and was baptized by Father Clarke at St. Ignatius' Church in his native city. He afterwards entered the Society of Jesus, where his varied knowledge and his almost universal use of modern languages made him invaluable. The Alaska missions are among the most arduous on the globe. The Fathers, besides being exposed to the terrible climate of the Arctic circle, are with out any source of income or revenue, at an enormous distance from any base of supplies, and separated from one another by hundreds of miles. Only once a year can they communicate with the outside world. One year ago another Baltimorean, Father Judge, departed for Alaska. Of the four Fathers composing the mission, two are from Baltimore.

Some apprehension has been created in commercial circles by the signs of impending progress reported of as shown by China. It is predicted that she will eventually form an alliance with Russia, and obtain command of the European markets. So far has the alarm of the interested classes been aroused that an objection has been made to supplying the country in question with the material needed by her for the construction and working of railroads and the development of mining and manufacturing industries. As the refusal, however, would simply turn the face of the Chinese towards other centres, it is not likely that it will be carried out.

Cardinal Gibbons is reported by the *Jewish Exponent* as expressing himself strongly against the persecution of the Jews now taking place in Russia. His Eminence holds up the toleration of the United States as an example to the world.

The representatives of the well-known Drexel family have offered 40,000 dols. towards the establishment of an industrial school for coloured children, in connection with a college conducted by the Christian Brothers near Ellicott city, Maryland. Miss Kate Drexel, it will be remembered, has entered an Order especially founded by her for the benefit of the coloured population, and which she is about to endow, on making her profession, with the whole of her princely fortune—amounting to several million dollars, or more than a million pounds.

The Christian Brothers have purchased the property at Irvington, on the Hudson, that was known as the Astor Estate, for the purpose of erecting thereon an enlarged and improved Manhattan College. The price paid for sixty-five acres of land fronting on the Hudson was 160,000 dols., and the Brothers say that by the time the magnificent buildings are complete the college will have cost over 1,000,000 dols., and will furnish accommodation for over 1,000 students. It is proposed to consolidate in this new institution all the institutions now under the control and management of the Manhattan College.

Cardinal Gibbons, in giving his approval to the Pan-American Congress recently held in New York, thus expresses himself:—"A union of the American States," he says, "will bring the people of this world together, first by commercial, and, as a consequence, by social ties, and thus widen and deepen that conception of the brotherhood of man which has been for ages the dream of great minds and the desire of great hearts."

By the munificence of a Mrs. Leland Stanford, a statue of Father Junipero Serra, the pioneer missionary of California, is about to be erected on the beach at Monterey, where the missionary first landed—some hundred and thirty or forty years ago. The statue will be of Crystal Lake granite, and will represent Father Serra in his habit of a Franciscan monk, and stepping, cross in hand, from his boat.

Secretary Blaine has dismissed the Minister to Guatemala for the part played by him, a little time ago, in permitting of the arrest of a political refugee on board of an American vessel. The refugee in question was one General Barrundia, who, having vainly conspired against the Government, escaped to an American ship. The authorities immediately applied to the American Minister for permission to arrest him, and were authorised by the Minister to do so. Barrundia, however, resisted, and was shot down on board. Mr. Blaine, having investigated the matter, has now dismissed the Minister. How would it be, by the way, supposing the arrest of a dynamiter on board, for example, of an American vessel at Cork, was authorised by the Minister in London? It is to be concluded that the Government of the States has not one law for little countries and another for big ones—as seems to be the case elsewhere.

The Rev. J. Adams, a Brooklyn Protestant minister, has been saying a word or two in illustration of high life in America. The people who lead such a life, he says, "are as dead as pagans to all higher aims of living." He further describes them as being "without a belief that there is any higher object in living than to go to dinners and eat them, to have parties which cost fortunes, and build up mushroom aristocracy on the basis of great grandfathers and great dinners." The great dinners we can understand, but what about the great grandfathers? Do these exalted people project the gratification of their ambition into the future or enjoy by anticipation the pride of their posterity? Great grandfathers are hardly to be adopted.

The conveyance by an American man-of-war of the King of the Sandwich Islands to San Francisco has been taken as confirming a rumour to the effect that the King was in treaty with the American Government for the sale of his territory. The transaction, moreover, seems to be regarded with some degree of favour. It has been felt that a too rigid adherence to the Monroe doctrine has not been beneficial to the commercial interest of the country, and some departure

from it, in the way of acquiring vantage points abroad, though by no means in that of permitting such acquisitions by foreign powers on the American continent, is advocated. It is pointed out that the Sandwich Islands offer many advantages and would be conveniently situated for promoting trade and intercourse with the Australian colonies. It is further believed that, should America neglect the opportunity, Germany or England would probably become possessed of them, and this is regarded as especially undesirable for American interests. The carrying out of the transaction alluded to, therefore, seems likely to be far from unpopular.

A cowardly slander to the effect that, in escaping from Western Australia the late John Boyle O'Reilly had broken his parole, has called forth an indignant and complete contradiction from the *Pilot*. The slander arose from a desire to prevent the erection in Boston of a statue to Mr. O'Reilly. The *Pilot* in contradicting it quotes, among other things, the debate that took place in the House of Commons on the petition presented by Mr. Harrington for permission that Mr. O'Reilly should revisit Ireland. In opposing the request not a word was said as to any breach of parole. Quite conclusive, however, is a letter also published by the *Pilot* from the Rev. Father McCabe, now a parish priest in Minnesota, and who was the priest by whose assistance Mr. O'Reilly made his escape. "John Boyle O'Reilly," he writes, "never broke his parole, never having one to break. From the day that he landed from the convict ship Hougoumont in Fremantle up to the day of his escape from Bunbury, he had been under strict surveillance, and was looked upon as a very dangerous man and treated as such. No man living knows this better than I do."—The slander, then, which, however, no one knowing anything about Mr. O'Reilly could possibly believe, has been fully exposed. Its effect, no doubt, will be to promote the object which it was invented to thwart.

A GREAT CATHOLIC ARTIST.

(Sydney Freeman's Journal.)

MR. CHARLES SANTLEY must be by this time back in London. The great singer did not go direct to England from Australia. He "did" the East, and spent a considerable time in the Holy Land. Father Vincent Grogan, of the Passionists, who has just arrived in Sydney received a letter from his old friend before he left England. Mr. Santley, at the time of writing was in Jerusalem, and he gave Father Grogan (his old confessor) an interesting account of his travels in the Holy Land, during which he was offered the hospitality of several of the well-known monasteries. The great Catholic artist was to receive a splendid welcome on his return to London, a demonstration in his honour in which the leading lights of the artistic and social world joined heartily having been prepared. In well-informed quarters it is thought that Mr. Santley, who has already been knighted by the Pope—he is a commander of the Order of St. Gregory—will shortly be the recipient of some special mark of Royal favour. It is well-known that he is one of the Queen's favourites, and the Prince of Wales is one of his warmest admirers. Her Majesty has knighted Sir Jules Benedict, Sir Charles Halle, Sir Michael Costa, and Sir Arthur Sullivan. Why not Sir Charles Santley? The famous baritone has never been in any sense a toady, but the very reverse, and if honour comes to him in this form it will certainly not be of his own seeking. He is, however, independent of any decoration the Queen can confer, for he stands pre-eminent as an artist; he is a firm favourite, and above and beyond his art and his popularity as a public performer, he enjoys the confidence and esteem of the people of England, Ireland, and Scotland, besides counting by thousands his friends and admirers in America and Australia.

An impression has got about that Mr. Santley was not of a religious turn of mind till he entered the Catholic Church, of which he has been since the day of his reception, some thirteen years ago, such an exemplary member. This is not correct. Mr. Santley was brought up a Unitarian, and almost up to the time of his conversion he devoted himself to Sunday school teaching. Long before he "turned Catholic" it used to be said of him that his little speeches in presenting prizes at musical institutions or at musical competitions were "simply sermons." He always showed a strong religious spirit, and in addressing the young folks who were following his own profession, he invariably pointed a moral by impressing upon them the obligation of showing their gratitude to God for their vocal or musical gifts by dedicating their talents in some way to God's honour and glory. For many years before he followed the "kindly light" which led him into the Church, he assisted in Catholic Church choirs and at Catholic concerts, and this generosity of his was indirectly the means of his conversion. Mr. Santley has been twice married, and one of his sons—a Catholic—is a barrister in London. By his second marriage he has been blessed with one child, a little boy, who is now blossoming in his third summer.

MYERS AND CO., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street. The guarantee highest class work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth gives general satisfaction, and the fact of them supplying a temporary denture while the gums are healing does away with the inconvenience of being months without teeth. They manufacture a single artificial tooth for Ten Shillings, and sets equally moderate. The administration of nitrous oxide gas is also a great boon to those needing the extraction of a tooth. Read.—[ADVT.]

It is stated that His Eminence Cardinal Simeoni, who for over thirteen years has occupied the post of Prefect to the celebrated Congregation, has offered his resignation to the Holy Father. The opinion, which has serious grounds for belief, is that the post will be reserved for Cardinal Rampolla, the Papal Secretary of State, and that Cardinal Vanutelli, Nuncio at Lisbon, will succeed Rampolla.