

The Catholic World

ENGLAND.—Ecclesiastical College for Wales

The Bishop of Menevia has, through the generosity of a benefactor of the diocese, been enabled to open a small college at Holywell, where students for the priesthood can obtain a thorough knowledge of Welsh in addition to their ordinary studies.

FRANCE.—Expelling the Monks

A despatch from Nantes, under date July 1, states: Extensive establishments of the Premonstratensian and the Capuchin Orders were closed to-day after violent resistance. The Premonstratensian monks barricaded their doors and windows. A battalion of infantry and a detachment of dragoons assisted the police. Firemen finally deluged the monastery with water, forcing back the monks from the barricades. The occupants were taken out by means of ladders. Similar expedients were used to expel the Capuchin monks.

Friction with the Holy See

The Paris 'Matin' of a recent date published an article in which it stated that fresh friction has arisen between the French Government and the Holy See, that several French bishops had been ordered from Rome to send in their resignation, that on their appealing to the Premier, seven prelates had been summoned to the Eternal City within fifteen days, and that the Minister of Public Worship had prohibited them from leaving their dioceses. The Paris correspondent of the 'Daily Chronicle' says: The seven prelates are Monsignor Fuzet, Archbishop of Rouen; Monsignor Mignot, Archbishop of Albi; Monsignor Sueur, Archbishop of Avignon; Monsignor Lacroix, Bishop of Tarentaise; Monsignor Bouquet, Bishop of Mende; Monsignor le Nordet, Bishop of Dijon; and Monsignor Geay, Bishop of Laval. According to the 'Temps' the friction is being removed by explanations.

Petty Spite

M. Combes has found a new means of annoying the clergy. Every year the University of Paris holds a special examination known as the 'Concours d'Aggregation,' which all candidates qualifying for teaching in public schools have to pass before they are allowed to teach. The preparation for this examination is rather hard, and implies the previous passing of a number of other examinations, the production of official authorisations, and the payment of somewhat heavy fees. Among the candidates for this year's examination was a priest who had fulfilled all the conditions. But on the eve of the final examination the priest in question received a notice from the University authorities notifying him that by order of the Minister of Public Instruction all the authorisations granted to him were withdrawn, and that he would not be admitted to pass the final examination, the reason given being that the Minister did not consider it advisable to have priests qualifying for teaching in public schools. The Minister is given the right to cancel any authorisation previously given without giving any reason for this step, but it would seem that if he alleges a reason, this reason must be a valid one. Further steps will be taken to ascertain whether the Minister is entitled to exclude a priest from the examination qua priest members, and ex-members of religious congregations have been excluded from the teaching profession; but there is nothing against secular priests, and the Minister's decision is a purely arbitrary act which violates the constitutional rights of all citizens, including priests. The matter will shortly come before the Chamber.

GERMANY.—A Rare Event

German Catholics, especially those of the Rhineland, are rejoicing over the appointment of Professor Schrors as Rector Magnificus of the University of Bonn for 1904-5. Forty-three years have passed since a Catholic—Professor Hilgers—held the same position.

JAPAN.—The Position of the Church

A Paris newspaper publishes some interesting particulars of an interview which Monsignor Mugabure, Coadjutor of the Bishop of Tokio, has had with the Pope. Monsignor Mugabure went to Rome to discuss directly with the Propaganda Fide certain matters connected with his diocese. According to the newspaper, Pius X. confirmed the announcement that a few days before the outbreak of the war he had done all in his power to induce the Czar to maintain peace in the spirit of The Hague Conference, of which he had been the promoter. The Czar replied courteously, but in terms showing that war had become inevitable. Monsignor Mugabure told the Pope that since 1891, when Leo XIII. created a Catholic hierarchy in Japan with a bishopric at Tokio, Catholicism had made satisfactory progress. There

were at present over 90,000 Catholics in Japan, 10,000 of whom were in the capital. The Japanese Government showed the greatest tolerance towards the many Catholic priests, and had authorised the foundation of a large native Catholic seminary at Nagasaki. In Monsignor Mugabure's opinion, the Japanese upper classes are more and more inclined to favor the Christianisation of their country. The Pope was deeply moved on learning that many soldiers in the Japanese army had fulfilled their religious duties as good, pious Catholics before starting for the war. His Holiness promised shortly to transform the present Bishopric of Tokio into an Archbishopric, and commissioned Monsignor Mugabure to present to the Mikado his thanks for the great tolerance shown to Catholics.

ROME.—In the Vatican Gardens

A new dynamo for the production of the electric light has been installed in the gardens of the Vatican. The Holy Father performed the inaugural ceremony and conversed freely with the operators, taking a keen interest in the explanations they gave him.

An Interesting Contrast

In an article which he contributes to the 'Dublin Review' the Bishop of Salford draws an interesting contrast between the Dutch Pope Adrian VI. and the present Holy Father. Like Adrian VI., Pope Pius X. is, he points out, essentially a man of the people. Of lowly origin, by sheer force of intellectual talent, of personal virtue, of high character, he has been raised by Providence from the humblest rank to the supreme dignity on earth. The simple, frugal life and homely tastes, the dislike of unnecessary Court ceremonial of the peasant's son of Riese, recall those of the weaver's son of Utrecht. And if Adrian VI. during his brief pontificate showed himself a true reformer, what, asks the Bishop, have we not been led to expect in the way of reforms by the short period that has elapsed since the elevation of Pius X. to the Papacy? The election of Adrian appeared to be providential. Ambition and the spirit of the world had found their way into high places, with the result that the Pope's humility and zeal for the Faith were in strong contrast with the spirit which animated the Conclave. The morals of the period bore sad witness to the decline of Faith, and Dr. Casartelli, in dealing with the events of the time, betrays that outspoken and scrupulous love of accuracy from which the historian should never swerve.

SCOTLAND.—Death of a Convert

The death took place recently at Edinburgh of Mr. Alexander Reginald Forbes, banker, youngest son of the late Mr. George Forbes, West Coates, Edinburgh, and grandson of Sir William Forbes, sixth baronet of Pittsligo. Mr. Forbes was a member of the Lauriston congregation, and was in the seventieth year of his age. All his relatives are Protestants, Mr. Forbes having joined the Catholic Church a considerable time since. The remains were removed to the Sacred Heart Church, where a Requiem Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father Bader, S.J., and the funeral took place to the Dean Cemetery, amongst the mourners being the two brothers of the deceased. Father Bader officiated both at the church and at the grave.

UNITED STATES.—The Late Archbishop Guidi

The body of Most Rev. Archbishop Guidi, the Apostolic Delegate to the Philippines, who died in Manila on June 26 from heart failure, will be conveyed to Rome, where the interment will take place in September. Archbishop Guidi was appointed by the late Pope Leo XIII. to go to Manila and settle the differences between the Friars and the Government. He was forty-eight years of age. Monsignor Guidi gained a reputation as a diplomat and a peacemaker.

The Paulists

Father Searle, the new Father-General of the Paulists, is an astronomer of distinction, and has been honored several times by commissions from scientific institutions. He was formerly an instructor at Harvard and the United States Naval Academy, and up to a short time ago was one of the faculty of the Catholic University, Washington.

One day a microbe found a nest,
In a broad, expansive, full-grown chest;
He chuckl'd and laughed aloud with glee,
"A happy home I've found," said he.
"Ho! ho! Mr. Microbe, not so fast,
Your cosy lodging will not last,
Your swift eviction I'll ensure
With a bottle of WOODS' GREAT PEPPERMINT
CURE."