

## INTERCOLONIAL

His Lordship Dr. Doyle, Bishop of Lismore, who recently recovered from a severe illness in Brisbane, did not feel strong enough to attend the Catholic Congress.

At the conference of the Catholic Young Men's Societies, held in connection with the Catholic Congress in Melbourne, it was decided that a system of State federation be adopted throughout the Commonwealth and New Zealand, and that the various prelates be approached with a view of arranging that a special sermon in the interests of the Society be preached in every parish once a year.

The Brisbane correspondent of the 'Catholic Press' writes.—The collection in connection with the opening of new St. Mary's Church, Ipswich, has now reached to nearly £3000. The country people who could not be present at the opening are still forwarding donations. Mr. W. J. Lynch, who 46 years ago served the first Mass ever celebrated in old St. Mary's, Ipswich, also served the first Mass offered up in the new church. The Warwick convent bazaar has resulted in about £2000 being raised for the building of the new wing.

The doyens among the clergy at the Catholic Congress (says the 'Freeman's Journal') are the venerable Dr. Murray (Bishop of Maitland), Archpriest Sheehy, and Monsignor Beechinor (Launceston). The senior of them all in Australian experience is Archpriest Sheehy, who was ordained by Archbishop Polding well over 50 years ago, and remembers the Church in this country when it did not take long to count its priests. The senior Bishop is Dr. Murray, who has taken such an active part in religion throughout the country that the events he remembers would fill the whole year's calendar. He is rarely engaged in any big event nowadays that he cannot remember that it is the anniversary of some other important episode in his active life. Thus at the Hibernian Congress entertainment the other night he recalled that that very day thirty-eight years ago he and Monsignor Beechinor first set foot on Australian soil.

The sacerdotal silver jubilee of the popular parish priest of Concord, Rev. Father P. Byrne, occurred on October 28. Father Byrne is nearly 50 years of age, and was born in Dundalk, County Louth, Ireland. He was educated at Monaghan Seminary and Maynooth. As a class-mate at Maynooth he had Bishop O'Donnell, of Raphoe. Ordained in '79, Father Byrne was engaged for some years in the diocese of Clogher—his native diocese. Nineteen years ago he came to Sydney with the Cardinal, accompanied by his namesake, the P.P. of Wollongong, Rev. Father J. J. Byrne, and has ministered at Kogarah, St. Camille's, Cooma, and Concord.

The beautiful 'Tu es Petrus,' which was sung as an offertory at the Pontifical High Mass in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne, on Sunday, October 23, has a remarkable story attached to it (says the 'Freeman's Journal'). Pius IX. once visited an Italian convent, and in honor of his visit, the work was composed by one of the nuns. Many a time since then it has been heard with a thrill in St. Peter's, Rome. It was performed for the first time, on a grand scale at least, in Australia on Sunday last. We hope to hear it in Sydney before long.

At a sectional meeting of the Catholic Congress on October 26, the Very Rev. Dean Hegarty, V.F., read a paper—'Australian Catholic Truth Society,' which was commented upon by the Most Rev. Dr. Kelly and the Arch-bishop of Melbourne. The latter said he fully approved of the establishment of an Australian Catholic Truth Society. For some time past he had spent from £30 to £40 a year in the purchase of the Catholic Truth Society's publications. These were lent, and, when read, returned to him, and were then lent to others. In that way, the circle of readers was extended as widely as possible. The financial side of the question was the most difficult. However, if once the society were established, the sale of the pamphlets and bound shilling volumes would provide a continuous fund. There was great need of such a society, especially in large cities, where Catholic faith was exposed to so many dangers, and where a ready means of defence was of very great importance. A committee could be appointed, and a practical start made with the proposal. The following resolutions were unanimously agreed to:—(1) That an Australian Catholic Truth Society be established. (2) That a committee of the Archbishops, Bishops, clergy, and laity be formed. (3) That the following gentlemen constitute the committee, with power to add to their number: The Archbishop of Melbourne, the Coadjutor-Bishop of Hobart, Very Rev. E. O'S. Goidanich, Very Rev. Archdeacon Davy, V.G., Rev. J. Manly, Very Rev. Dean Hegarty, V.F., Messrs. McMahon, Frechill, and Hoare.

## Friends at Court

### GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- November 13, Sunday.—Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost. Feast of the Patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
 „ 14, Monday.—St. Lawrence, Bishop and Confessor.  
 „ 15, Tuesday.—St. Gertrude, Virgin.  
 „ 16, Wednesday.—St. Stanislaus Kostka, Confessor.  
 „ 17, Thursday.—St. Gregory Thaumaturgus, Bishop and Confessor.  
 „ 18, Friday.—Dedication of the Basilicas of SS. Peter and Paul.  
 „ 19, Saturday.—St. Pontian, Pope and Martyr.

St. Lawrence, Bishop and Confessor.

St. Lawrence, who was born in the year 1125, was the son of a princely family. In his youth he had been held in captivity as a hostage by Dermot M'Murrough, King of Leinster. At the age of 25 he was chosen abbot of Glendalough, and on the death of Archbishop Gregory in 1162, was promoted to the metropolitan See of Dublin. He was consecrated by Gelasius, successor to St. Malachy in the primate's See of Armagh. His first care was to reform the manners of the clergy and to furnish his Church with worthy ministers. He was so rigid in enforcing ecclesiastical discipline that, though he had the necessary faculties himself, he frequently obliged grievous sinners to journey to Rome for absolution. In 1179 the saint, with some other Irish prelates, attended the Third General Council of Lateran. On his return to Ireland he at once commenced to discharge his legatine power by making wholesale regulations and introducing much needed reforms. After a glorious and most useful episcopate of 18 years St. Lawrence O'Toole, who was styled, as St. Bernard tells us, 'the father of his country,' died in the year 1180. He was canonised in 1225 by Honorius III.

St. Gertrude, Virgin.

St. Gertrude, who was a religious of the Order of St. Benedict, was born at Eisleben, Saxony, in 1264. She was a sister of St. Mechtilda. She wrote in Latin a book called 'Revelations,' in which she relates her communications with God.

St. Stanislaus Kostka, Confessor.

St. Stanislaus Kostka, who belonged to one of the noblest families in Poland, was born in the middle of the 16th century. His early studies were made at home, but at the age of 11 he was sent, with his elder brother Paul, to the Jesuit College at Vienna. At the age of 17 he set out for Rome, where he entered the Jesuit novitiate, where he died in the 18th year of his age.

St. Gregory Thaumaturgus.

St. Gregory, a Father of the Church was, from his extraordinary miracles surnamed Thaumaturgus (wonder-worker). He was born in Neo-Caesarea in Pontus, and was educated as a pagan until he came to Caesarea, Palestine, where he was converted to the faith by Origen. He passed five years in the school of Origen and three at Alexandria, during the persecution of Maximian. Gregory was made Bishop of his native city, which then numbered only 17 Christians; but at his death only 17 pagans remained.

Dedication of the Basilicas of St. Peter and Paul.

These two basilicas are situated in Rome, the one on the Vatican hill, the other on the road which leads to the mouth of the Tiber. They are famous throughout the world for size, richness, and magnificence of decoration, but the most precious treasures which they contain are the relics of the two great Apostles—St. Peter, the Vicar of Christ and St. Paul, the zealous missionary of the infant Church.

St. Pontian, Pope and Martyr.

St. Pontian was Pope from 230 to 235. He was exiled by Alexander Severus to the island of Tavolara, on the eastern coast of Sardinia, where he was put to death by order of Maximian.

Thomas F. Kielev, the all-round champion athlete of the world, on September 18 broke the world's record, held by himself, for the 56-pound weight throw by 1 foot 3 inches. He hurled the weight 40 feet 2 inches at the Greater New York Irish Athletic Association Games, held at Celtic Park, New York.