

me they now hope to save the General's life. A couple of days ago I was informed there was no human hope. The Holy Father gave leave for the General to say Mass if he got well, with the assistance of a priest, although it is the right arm he has lost. It is strange the Father-General of the Augustinians is recovering from a somewhat similar affection of the leg.'

#### RUSSIA—Religious Liberty

A Rome correspondent says a plan to ensure the religious liberty of Catholics in Russia, elaborated by the Bishops by the order of the Czar, has been concluded. Archbishop Schembeck, Metropolitan of Mohileff, the Catholic Primate of Russia, will go to Rome soon to confer with the Pope. An agreement is likely to be reached, owing to the Vatican's conciliatory attitude in the Russian crisis.

#### SCOTLAND—In the Land of his Fathers

The Right Rev. Dr. Macdonald, Bishop of Prince Edward Island, was during April on a visit to the Scottish capital. His Lordship's forbears were among the Macdonalds who fought in the Rebellion of '45 under Prince Charlie, and who, owing to persecution, emigrated with their friends and formed a colony in Prince Edward Island—a colony which has prospered and given many men of standing to the literary, commercial, and ecclesiastical world.

#### SOUTH AFRICA—The Bishop of Transvaal

The Right Rev. Dr. Miller, the new Bishop of the Transvaal, landed at Algoa Bay on the morning of St. Patrick's Day, and in the evening was introduced to an audience at a St. Patrick's Day concert in Port Elizabeth by Bishop McSherry. He received an enthusiastic welcome, and, in replying, said they made him feel as if he were back in Ireland again. He hoped to be able to imitate Bishop McSherry in working for the progress of the Church.

#### UNITED STATES—A Brave Priest

The terrible catastrophe at Brockton, Mass., where more than three score employees of a shoe factory lost their lives by the explosion of a boiler and the burning of the building, developed a priest hero in the person of Father O'Rourke, who saved ten lives at the peril of his own, and assisted in the rescue of many others until exhausted by the heat and exhaustion, when he had to be carried himself unconscious from the fiery furnace.

#### Under the Stars and Stripes

The number of Catholics now under the aegis of the Stars and Stripes (says an exchange) is in the neighborhood of 23,000,000 or, to use the exact numbers, as given by the 'Catholic Directory,' 22,127,351. Of that number there are 11,887,317 Catholics in the United States; in the Philippines, 7,058,699; in Porto Rico, 1,000,000; Hawaii, 32,000; and in Cuba, 1,573,862.

#### GENERAL

##### Worthy of Example

The Government of Brazil, which owns the railroads of the country, has made special reductions to clergymen, nuns, and doctors going to attend the sick.

##### Earthquake in India

The earthquake in India damaged the convent at Mussoorie to the extent of 20,000 rupees. At Dehra Dun the Catholic chapel is in ruins.

'The publication of an advertisement in a Catholic paper shows that the advertiser not only desires the patronage of Catholics, but pays them the compliment of seeking it through the medium of their own religious journal.' So says an esteemed and wide-awake American contemporary. A word to the wise is sufficient.

MYERS & CO, Dentists, Octagon, corner of George Street. They guarantee the highest class of work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth give 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...

When Influenza stalks the land,

La Grippe or bronchial trouble;

Or croupy coughs are going round

Our misery to double.

Would you from every cough and cold,

Keep you and yours secure?

There's one, and only one advice—

Take WOODS' GREAT PEPPERMINT CURE.

## WEST AUSTRALIAN BLACKS

### CATHOLIC MISSIONS

In the course of an article in the 'Austral Light' on the West Australian natives and their brutal treatment by low white settlers and police the writer says:

Amidst all this cruelty and degradation there are forces at work which won the approval and admiration of the Commissioner. Speaking of New Norcia. Dr. Roth says: 'This, the oldest aboriginal institution in the States, is in a most flourishing condition, continues to carry on very excellent work, and is well worthy of the support extended to it by the department.' This mission was founded by the late Dr. Salvado in 1854, and is now in charge of the Right Rev. Dom. Fulgentius Torres. There are 200 aborigines and half-castes, and about 39 lay Brothers. The boys are taught by a Brother; the girls attend the convent school, and are under the Sisters. The children start work when about 14, but receive no wages (except pocket money) until 17 or 18. Then, according to their value, they receive pay, some getting £1 per month, some £2, and others £3, with board in the monastery, £1 8s being the maximum weekly wage, and on this they marry. Better off than most young couples, their houses are built and furnished for them, and a rental charged of one shilling per annum. The third generation of the original inmates are now at New Norcia. But

#### The Most Striking Instance

of whole-souled charity, like that of St. Vincent de Paul in its earnestness and intensity, is that of Father Nicholas, the parish priest at Broome. It is so interesting that I trust I will be pardoned for making some extracts from it:—

How long have you been working as a missionary amongst the aborigines?—Since the beginning of 1895, when I came out with a party of other Trappist Fathers on their way to found the Aboriginal Mission at Beagle Bay. My General Superior gave me a formal promise to let me live and die in Australia on behalf of the natives. From the date of landing I commenced work all alone at Broome without a penny in my pocket; a tent was my church; a bough-shed my room.

What was the nature of your work at this period?—Being dependent upon public charity, I was able, after a little time, to open an orphan school, in order to gather in the native full-blooded children of both sexes, as well as some half-caste girls, whom, to my sorrow, I found amongst the Asiatics. The Abbot of my congregation at Beagle Bay then commenced to give assistance in the way of provisions. With this help I succeeded in supporting during these three years 37 children and adults, and in paying a small salary for a school-mistress.

#### Further Steps.

Did you take any further steps yourself to look after the education of the children?—With the help of subscriptions from the inhabitants of Broome, I built a church here, and a residence for myself; the latter served as a school for the remaining children of my blacks.

Did you do anything for the welfare of the adult black population?—Yes. About the same time I bought seven or eight town allotments in close proximity to the church. Each allotment cost over £20. I also erected certain huts on these allotments for the Christian married couples.

Were these allotments and improvements paid for out of your own private pocket?—Yes.

Are they still your property?—No. I made them over to various of these native couples, and impressed upon the wives the necessity for always retaining them, so they might always have a permanent home here. They have now and again paid me back a little towards the cost of purchase. I am quite satisfied with what they have given me.

But when the time comes for you to be called to rest, and these blacks are no longer under your influence, is it not likely that some speculator or unprincipled person will contrive to get these allotments out of the hands of their present owners, especially as these lands are increasing in value?—I have thought of this matter since, and propose trying to make some arrangement by which these allotments may be held in trust for them.

At the present time, how many have you under your especial care?—Nine old and infirm women, two old men (one of whom is beginning to be mentally incapable), five little girls (one of whom is blind), two small boys two sick women, one man whose leg the doctor has lately amputated, two others very sick with incurable disease, one young man sick with consumption, one with pleurisy, one with disease of the leg. This total of 26 people I feed three times daily, and supply with