

associates. The members contributed 23,711 useful and well-worked articles of clothing last year. The receipts for the Guild in England and Wales amounted to £601 18s 5d, and after deduction of expenses there was a balance of £258 4s 8d in hand. At the annual meeting, over which Lady Mary Howard presided, Lady Herbert of Lea was elected president, Lady Mary Fitzalan Howard and Miss Cologan vice-presidents, Mrs. Fred. Bowlby hon. secretary, and Miss Maunsell hon. assistant secretary.

ROME—Farewell Audience

Towards the end of July the Holy Father received in farewell audience his Grace Archbishop O'Reilly, of Adelaide, who presented £500 as Peter's Pence.

The Irish College

The Vice-Rector of the Irish College, Rome, has received the following letter from the Holy Father:— 'Dearest Son,—While praying that the peace of the just be accorded to the blessed soul of the illustrious Monsignor Murphy, I feel it incumbent upon me to express to you and the dear pupils of the college my most sincere condolences on the occasion of the great loss which we have all suffered. We are comforted by the thought that the good Rector has been called to receive the reward of his virtues, that he will not forget us before the Throne of God, and that he will be a powerful advocate in obtaining the highest grace for us. We shall be grateful if on an opportune occasion you will make known our sentiments to the relatives of the dear departed, and to all those who in their relations with him justly appreciated the beautiful gifts of a truly exemplary priest. Deeply moved, We impart to you and the students the Apostolic Blessing.'

SCOTLAND—Church Progress

'I say without hesitation that the Catholic denomination is now the greatest religious body in the West of Scotland.' So said his Grace Archbishop Maguire on Sunday, July 16, at the re-opening service of St. Mary's Church, Paisley. His Grace (writes a Glasgow correspondent) has good cause to make such a statement, as our Faith has, indeed, made rapid progress in the West of Scotland. In this direction the "Thread Town" has occupied a prominent place. Sunday's ceremonies in St. Mary's marked the completion of the beautiful new chancel. In addition to the erection of the chancel, the length of the church has been increased from 120 to 133 feet, and new rooms, a hall, and a vestry have been provided. The seating accommodation has been increased, and now there are sittings for 1000 worshippers.

Death of a Distinguished Soldier

General Sir Montagu Gerard, K.C.B., whose death is announced from the Far East, was a brother of Father Gerard, S.J. The General was the Laird of Rochsoles, so that in his death the Catholic laity of Scotland loses one of its most distinguished members. General Gerard was born in 1813, was the son of Colonel Archibald Gerard of Rochsoles, and of the 92nd Highlanders, and a grandson of that Colonel Gerard of Rochsoles who acted as Adjutant-General to Lord Lake during the Maratha wars. Sir Montagu was a Stonyhurst man. Entering the Army in '64, he had a long and distinguished career, winning many decorations, and being repeatedly mentioned in dispatches.

SWITZERLAND—Catholic Organisation

The Papal Encyclical addressed to the people of Italy has already had good effects not only in that country but also in other lands. The Swiss Catholics, putting aside all causes of division, have established under the title of the People's Catholic Association an organisation which extends through all the cantons, and has at present fifty thousand members. Its programme is free from politics as such, but it is strong in social features. The moral and material interests of the working classes are to be promoted. The rights of the Church will be asserted and defended. Fresh works of charity are to be set on foot and institutions of beneficence to be founded. Education is to receive attention, and whatever is possible will be done to ensure Catholic progress in the development of Catholic literature and like-wise science and art. Innocent popular recreations will not be forgotten, and for the advantage of members who may be stricken down by illness, the Association will have the character of a benefit society. Provision is made for local meetings, and between all the branches there are close bonds of union. The government body is a committee consisting of twenty-five members. The organisation is sure to become an important factor in national advancement.

UNITED STATES—A Presentation

Rev. Father Doyle, the eminent New York Paulist, has been presented with a cheque of 1000 dollars by the New York Chapter of the Knights of Columbus. Father Doyle, in returning thanks to the Knights, said that he would hand over the cheque to the Apostolic Mission House, Washington, D.C.

Cost of Catholic Schools

The report of the United States Commissioner of Education for the fiscal year ending June 30, just published, states that 16,009,361 pupils attended the public schools during the last fiscal year, and that the cost of education now averages £4 a year for each pupil, the country over. The same report states that during the same time 1,093,876 pupils attended the private schools. As everyone knows, the private schools are chiefly Catholic schools; consequently the bulk of this class of attendance belongs to them. If these were sent to the public schools of course it would cost £4 per pupil, or a total of £4,500,000 all told. In addition to this the country is also spared the expense of putting up school buildings.

Great Cities Compared

The following particulars of the population and area of the nine largest cities in the world will be found of interest:—

London may mean the city of London, which comprises only 673 acres, or it may mean the administrative county of London, which boasts nearly 117 square miles, or 74,839 acres; or Greater London, which embraces the metropolitan police district, and has an area of no less than 692 square miles, or 442,420 acres. Within the boundaries of the county of London there were 4,536,541 souls, living in 616,461 houses. Within this area must also be counted 12,054 acres of grass, including the public parks and gardens. In the greater London are 6,580,000 inhabitants, and the area forms a city far more homogeneous and compact than Greater Chicago or Greater New York.

Greater New York covers 307 square miles, with a population of 3,437,202. It has 6,766 acres of parks and open spaces, little more than half that of London; yet the proportion of unoccupied land not under control of the city is, of course, many times as great. The actual agglomeration of buildings in Greater New York—excluding Staten Island—covers barely 51,000 acres, or 80 square miles. Less than 5000 acres of Staten Island's 57.19 miles is built upon.

Paris has an area of a little more than thirty-one square miles, with a population of 2,700,000, living in 75,000 houses. This is within the ramparts, but if the actual agglomeration of houses be taken, including the suburbs, the area is 45 square miles, and population 3,600,000.

Berlin, a mere village a century ago, is now the third city in Europe and the fourth in the world in point of population, having 1,857,000 inhabitants in its 45 square miles of territory. Its actual increase from 1800 to 1900 was 818 per cent. There is an enormous suburban district clamoring to be annexed, and with this added to the population of the present city, the total of inhabitants is about 2,430,000.

Chicago is spread out over 1903 miles, with 1,698,575 inhabitants, but only about 70 square miles of this territory is improved, and less than 50 miles built upon. It has 2232 acres of parks and open spaces.

Vienna, enlarged in 1891 by the addition of 50 suburbs outside the second girdle of fortifications, has now 1,662,269 inhabitants in 69 square miles of territory. She is now reaching out for the adjoining town of Floridsdorf, across the river Danube, and four other towns, with a total population of 50,000 more. More than five-eighths of Vienna are woods, pastures, and vineyards, while more than one-tenth is parks, gardens, and squares.

St. Petersburg covers an area of 21,185 acres, of which 12,820 are part of the delta of the river Neva, and 1330 acres are submerged. The population is now 1,248,739, with 190,635 in the suburbs.

Peking and Boston have about the same population, 1,000,000. The former is a walled city and contains an area of about 30 square miles. The large area in comparison with the population is accounted for by the enormous space taken up by the imperial palaces and gardens. The area of Boston is 24,000 acres, of which 2308 are common open spaces and 126 acres, ponds, and rivers. Boston is reaching out for the suburbs within a radius of 10 miles of her city hall, which would give her a population of about 1,250,000.