

Silvestro, Rome, and confessor of the Queen. Dowager of Italy, will instruct the Princess and officiate at the ceremony of the profession of faith.

An Official Press Office

Pope Pius X. contemplates founding an official press news office for supplying Church news to correspondents. The idea was suggested to him by Cardinal Merry Del Val, and is likely to save the Holy Father from much of the annoyance he experiences now through the circulation of unfounded rumors and the presentation of views inimical to the interests of the Church.

France and the Holy See

A Reuter's telegram from Rome says: The Vatican announces the publication of a White Book, consisting of 300 pages, relating to the separation of Church and State in France. The first part of the book contains nine chapters, with an appendix, and gives an account of the discussion on the question of the Separation, while the second part comprises 47 documents, a large number of which have not hitherto been published. A preface to this portion of the Book sets forth the precise object of its publication, through which the Holy See hopes to show that the responsibility for the rupture rests with the French Government. The only object of the publication, it is asserted, is to prevent a misconstruction of historical facts in such an important question. The appendix treats of the protection by France of Catholics in the Near and Far East.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society

Among the most interesting of recent audiences granted by the Holy Father was that granted to the President of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. The Pope, after examining the account of the work of the great Society for the year 1901, sent the following message through the President: 'I thank you for all the good you are doing. I know your Society well, for I saw it at work at Mantua and Venice, where it rendered great services to the poor, not only by the succor it brought them, but still more by the moral encouragement it gave them. What numbers of families it has saved! What numbers of young people it has led back to the right path from which they had erred. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is an apostolate for good at a time when there are so many other societies which are an apostolate for evil. Continue, then, to carry on the good work, you will find that it will bring you peace of mind—when a man does good during the day he sleeps the better for it at night. Your Society is a necessity of the time in which we live, and it has my encouragement and blessing.'

A Visitor from Australia

During his audience a few days ago (writes a Rome correspondent under date December 27) the Very Rev. Dr. O'Riordan presented to his Holiness the Hon. B. Fahey, member of the Legislative Council of Brisbane. The Hon. B. Fahey was born near Ballyvaughan, County Clare, and left Ireland fifty years ago. He was employed in the Civil Service till a few years ago, when he went out on pension. He then entered Parliament, and is one of its most useful members, owing to the detailed knowledge of the country which his official duties for half a century brought him. He has a brother still living in the house where he was born. He visited his native land this last summer for the first time in half a century, and has been now in Rome for some weeks and intends to leave immediately after the Christmas holidays for the South of France, where he will pass the winter. He was the guest of the Rector of the Irish College on Christmas Day, besides a few other Irish visitors to the Eternal City whom the Rector wished to make at home for the Feast. The Hon. Mr. Fahey had hoped to spend Christmas with his brother in Clare, but feared the climate of Ireland after so many years living in Australia; but when the winter is over he is to return to Ireland to bid his brother and his native place a final farewell. Mr. Fahey is a well known man in Australia, a genuine Catholic and Irishman, and a personal friend of Cardinal Moran, Archbishop Carr, of Melbourne, and several of the Australian Bishops.

SCOTLAND—Christmas Masses

Midnight Mass (writes a correspondent) was celebrated in no fewer than 87 churches in the Glasgow archdiocese alone, crowded congregations attending in each, a noticeable fact being the attendance thereof of many non-Catholics, which more surely than aught else marks a sign of changed times and changed opinions in Scotland.

New Churches

As further evidence of the spread of Catholicism in Scotland (writes a Glasgow correspondent), two new churches were opened on Sunday, December 17, one at

Coatdyke, Airdrie, which was solemnly dedicated by Archbishop Maguire. In the course of a brilliant sermon, the Archbishop congratulated the congregation, and offered them his own and other Catholics' good wishes on the good work that had been so happily completed in the opening of that new building. They had outgrown the accommodation provided for them in the adjoining school, and were now able to devote the whole of that building to education. The new church is built to accommodate 700 worshippers, and has cost £1000. It is built on the Airdrie estate, and is situated in the midst of a rapidly growing population. Ample provision has been made with a view to erecting a larger structure in the future. The second church opened was at Larkhall. Very Rev. Provost Chisholm, Paisley, performed the opening ceremony.

SPAIN—Attempt on the Life of a Cardinal

As Cardinal Casanas was leaving the Cathedral, Barcelona, on Sunday evening, December 24, a stranger threw himself upon him and attempted to assassinate him. The man was at once seized and overpowered by the bystanders. The author of the attempt on the Cardinal's life, a weaver named Jose Salas Comas, committed suicide in his cell on Monday evening by taking poison. During his last moments Comas declared himself to be an Anarchist.

UNITED STATES—Higher Education of Women

Many leading representatives of the American Catholic Hierarchy attended the presentation recently of a scholarship fund of 10,000 dollars to Trinity College, Washington—the first Catholic institution founded in the United States for the higher education of women—by the ladies' auxiliary of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. Cardinal Gibbons, president of the Board of trustees, received the gift for the college.

The Apostolic Mission

There are now in attendance at the lectures in the Apostolic Mission House, Washington (says the 'Paulist Calendar'), 26 priest students—nearly three times the enrolment of last year. This one great fact indicates the growth of this remarkable work. It will not take many years now before we shall have two or three hundred of these well-trained missionaries out among the non-Catholic people of the United States, telling them what the Catholic Church teaches, and persuading them that their highest spiritual interests are dependent on her saving grace. It can be seen what a mighty impetus this will give to the progress of the Church. The growth of this work, as well as the numerous letters we are receiving, doubly convince us that we are behind a great movement; as an eminent lawyer wrote recently, 'the greatest movement in the Church since the days of Luther.' Last year our affiliated missionaries in the South gave nearly one hundred missions of a week each, preached to thousands who never knew aught of the Catholic Church but what they considered detestable, and they received some hundreds of converts into the Church. This service cost us over 400,000 dollars. A few years more will enable us, with the Catholic support, to place this work on a safe and secure footing.

The Twelve Good Rules

Do young folks nowadays read Goldsmith's 'Deserted Village'? (says the 'Ave Maria') And if they do, are they as insistent in hunting up the explanation of unusual words and phrases, historical allusions, illustrative figures, and other knotty matters, as were the boys and girls of a generation or two ago? For instance, what did the poet mean by the first half of this line—

The twelve good rules, the royal game of goose?

The second half was, of course, plain enough: 'fox and geese' was a popular game half a century ago; but what were the 'twelve good rules'? It took considerable time and much searching to discover that the rules in question, ascribed to Charles I. of England, were:

1. Urge no health.
2. Profane no divine ordinances.
3. Touch no State matters.
4. Reveal no secrets.
5. Pick no quarrels.
6. Make no comparisons.
7. Maintain no ill opinions.
8. Keep no bad company.
9. Encourage no vice.
10. Make no long meals.
11. Repeat no grievances.
12. Lay no wagers.

Bad Breath

Bad breath is a most offensive thing both to yourself and your friends. If you are troubled in this way try DR. ENSOR'S TAMER JUICE for Biliousness, Indigestion, and all Stomach Disorders.