

UNITED STATES—A Cosmopolitan Flock

Not since the morning of the first Christian Pentecost (says the 'New World'), when the Apostles preached Christ in the streets of Jerusalem, has such a cosmopolitan congregation come together as the Most Rev. Archbishop Quigley exercises spiritual jurisdiction over in Chicago—Parthians and Medes and Elamites and inhabitants of Mesopotamia, Judaea, and Cappadocia. Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Lybia about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews also, and proselytes, Cretes and Arabians. There are more Irish Catholics in Chicago than in the city of Dublin, more German Catholics than in the city of Berlin, more Polish Catholics than in the city of Warsaw, more Bohemian Catholics than in the city of Prague, more Italian Catholics than in the city of Pisa. And notwithstanding the greatest variety and freedom in racial customs, all are marvelously unified by a common faith, a common worship, and unquestioned loyalty to one Chief Pastor.

GENERAL

The Catastrophe in Jamaica

Word has been received in London that the Jesuit Fathers who have charge of the religious work in Jamaica are safe, but that the mission has been destroyed.

The Face of the Infant Jesus

In a 'Christmas Sermon' in the 'Christian Register' (Unitarian), December 20, the Rev. John C. Kimball tells the following story (quoted by the 'Sacred Heart Review') illustrating the power upon brutalised men of the picture of the Child Jesus:—

'Out in Western Texas, where I was awhile before our Civil War, there stood an old Spanish mission church, named San Jose, nearly ruined by having been made the scene of repeated battles, but still having over its altar a very fine picture of the crucifixion. One day a party of roughs from San Antonio, fearing neither God nor man, broke into the building and with their pistols, began making a target of its picture. The old priest in charge of the place implored them, with tears in his eyes and with every persuasion piety and horror could prompt, to desist from the sacrilege. In vain. They only threatened to fire also at his own white head. At last, with happy inspiration, he seized a picture of the Sistine Madonna near by, having in it the wonderful Child Face of the Infant Jesus, and, holding it up before that of the Crucifixion, bade them, if they must shoot, to fire at that. The brutal leader, with a ringing oath, at once levelled his revolver at the Child Face. But those calm, sweet, unfathomable eyes, the marvel of all art, looked straight and trusting into his; and he did what, fronting man, he never yet had done,—dropped its muzzle with a bit of tremor. His companions jeered at him for his cowardice, and again he raised the weapon, but with the same result. A third time he tried and failed. Then, with a strange look in his own eyes, but a voice there was no jeering at now, he faced his fellow-ruffians, shouting: "Away with you all! The man who shoots at that Child, I'll put a bullet through him!"'

Preparations are in progress in Victoria for celebrating the golden jubilee of the foundation of the Sisters of Mercy in that State. An influential committee has been formed to make the necessary arrangements for the auspicious event, which has been fixed for April 20.

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Domestic

By 'Maureen'

A Simple Way to Steam Fish.

Try steaming fish between two plates set over a saucepan of boiling water. The gravy that runs out of the fish should be thickened and used for sauce. Allow three quarters of an hour to steam thick fish steaks by this process, and you will be delighted with the results.

To Renovate a Mackintosh.

Sometimes a useful mackintosh is discarded on account of split seams that make it look unsightly. The following preparation neatly applied will improve the appearance of the mackintosh: Dissolve some fine shreds of pure india rubber in naphtha or sulphide of carbon, to form a stiff paste. Apply a little of the cement to each edge that is to be joined, bring the edges together, and place a weight over them till they are hard.

The Use of Court Plaster.

Court plaster should be used with care. If the injury should be very slight, it can be used without much possibility of harm; but if it is at all deep, like a cut, never use the plaster to cover the cut. Simply cut long, narrow strips and apply them across the cut to bring its edges together. Then the secretions of the wound can escape, and will not mature unless dirty. Never apply court plaster to a bruised wound. Times without number do we see a wound become a painful sore by being covered with court plaster. Its whole use is to bring together and hold together the edges of a cut, or to protect an irritated but unbroken skin.

Ambidexterity.

The advisability of training both hands equally is at the present time much discussed. It is generally believed that the reason why most people are right-handed is that the convolutions of the right hemisphere of the brain are larger and have more numerous folds than the left, and that, owing to the crossing of the bundles of conducting nerves, the left brain controls the right side of the body and vice versa. An eminent physician, Dr. Cartaz, contradicts this accepted opinion. 'Is it certain,' he asks, 'that the want of symmetry of the brain initiated right-handedness, or is it not equally likely that the inequality of the brain hemispheres, far from being the initial cause, is on the contrary, the result of the continual use? Taking animals as examples, we do not find this tendency to use one limb in preference to the other. Their brains are symmetrical, and there is nothing to show that that of primitive man was not equally so. He is backed up in his opinion by the head master of Eton, who, at the Public Schools Science Masters' Association at the University of London recently said: "He believed it was a physiological fact that there was a direct connection between the right hand and the left lobe of the brain, and what was more important, between the left hand and the right lobe of the brain. In giving children nothing but the use of the right hand, they were not training the brain evenly, but in a one-sided and lop-sided fashion. Why did we not insist on ambidexterity for children under fourteen years of age?" In connection with this, he said racquets and tennis were bad games, and cricket a one-sided game.'

Maureen

We have received from Messrs. Reid and Gray, the well-known makers and importers of agricultural implements and machinery, Dunedin, their revised catalogue for the current year. This firm enjoys an Australasian reputation for the excellence of their manufactures, which for workmanship and material are unrivalled. Everything else being equal, it is the duty of every colonial farmer to support a local industry, which employs at the present time 200 hands. Messrs. Reid and Gray direct attention to the fact that nearly all their goods are made in New Zealand, and that the prices charged are as low as is consistent with first-class material and good workmanship. The catalogue contains a great deal of information which will be found most useful to farmers, and if any further particulars are required they will be answered on applying to the firm....

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