

The Catholic World

AUSTRIA—The Emperor's Jubilee

The description by the daily journals of the great pageant which took place at Vienna in honor of the Emperor's Jubilee reads (says the 'Catholic Times') like a page of Aristo or Tasso converted into prose, such was the array of knights and dames representative of centuries that are gone. From the days of Rudolph of Hapsburg, the founder of the dynasty, the chief historical incidents connected with the fortunes of the Royal House were portrayed by groups of processionists. Through what vicissitudes that house has passed! Vienna twice besieged by the Turks, frequent campaigns against the Turkish invaders along the Hungarian frontier at the end of the sixteenth century, battles during the Thirty Years' War, and the rising of the peasants in the Tyrol were some of the scenes presented. For centuries Vienna was a storm-centre of Europe, and it is one of the highest of the present Emperor's titles to the affections of his people that he has succeeded in firmly establishing peace amidst the gravest difficulties. The inhabitants of the city took a pride in watching, as they passed, the different groups composed of the various peoples within the monarchy, wearing their national costumes. It is doubtful if any other man except the Emperor Francis Joseph could have bound them all so closely together in the bonds of a common allegiance.

ENGLAND—Charitable Bequests

Among the wills just proved is that of Mr. Clifton Stanislaus West, aged 74, of Southport, who left estate of the gross value of £183,661. He bequeathed £500 upon trust for the Convents of the Good Shepherd at Liverpool and Manchester, and there are also bequests to servants. The residue of his estate is left to Dean Cahill, of Southport, to be dealt with in accordance with instructions given to him, and it is believed this amount is intended for charitable and other uses of the Catholic Church.

Death of a Catholic Judge

The late Sir John Day, like other Catholic judges of recent times, was a man of marked individuality (says the 'Catholic Times'). It is to his strength of character he owed his distinction. Whether people admired him or differed from him, they recognised that he had clear, definite views on the subjects that came before him, that these views were based on solid principles, and that his judgments were ever formed in a spirit of perfect independence. His biographer in 'The Times' observes that the depth of his religious convictions led to the imposition of stern sentences, especially for offences against women and children, and for such crimes as blackmailing. This is true. Judge Day's mind was constantly influenced by a sense of moral duty, and it was his obedience to its dictates that won him a name for severity. To his success in wiping out the Liverpool High Rip Gang he could point as a justification of the discipline to which he subjected law-breakers. But whilst he had no mercy for the perpetrators of crimes and outrages which come under the title of ruffianism, he was full of ruth for lesser offences due to human weakness, and he was at all times anxious, at whatever personal sacrifice, to help those who had lapsed along the path of reform. In tact and good judgment when they were specially called for, as during the Belfast and the Parnell Commissions, he was never wanting, nor did he for a moment allow his political views to warp his legal opinions. Sir John Day by his sterling adhesion to the highest and purest traditions of the English Bench did honor to the Catholic religion which may be said to have been the well-spring of his actions, and of which two of his sons are able and zealous ministers.

FRANCE—Cures at Lourdes

A note by the Archbishop of Paris is published with regard to several miraculous cures effected at Lourdes. On the basis of an inquiry held by a Canonical Commission, the Archbishop declares that the cures effected in the case of Mlle. Clementine Trouve, Mlle. Authier, Mme. Wuietier, Mlle. Esther Thrasmann, and Mme. Francois, who were respectively suffering from a wound in the foot and from various forms of tuberculosis, are to be attributed to the special intervention of God, obtained by the intercession of the Blessed Virgin.

Restoration of Church Plunder

Much satisfaction is felt at the results of cases lately heard at Moulins, where the court has ordered the anti-religious com-

munes of Besson (Allier) and Surcy-Sevy to restore part of the ill-gotten goods acquired under the recent legislation of the Masonic Government of France. The first case to come before the court was that of the heirs of M. Collas, who laid claim to the principal, producing a yearly dividend of 150 francs, which had been bequeathed for the use of the local church, and which the Municipality of Besson had appropriated. As shown by the verdict, some vestige of justice is yet left in France for those who insist upon having a share in it. The commune was ordered by the court to restore to the plaintiffs the principal claimed as well as arrears in dividend, and to bear all costs connected with the trial. The other case is one of a class which we may expect to hear of frequently in the near future. It was a suit brought by Madame Thuret, heir-at-law of Madame Fould, against the commune of Surcy-Sevy for the possession of a valuable tapestry. The tapestry, which cost about 30,000 francs, was bestowed in 1865 by Madame Fould on the parish church through the officials of the commune. The court has ordered the restitution of the article and the payment of all legal expenses. Both verdicts have caused something of a sensation.

ROME—The Holy Father and Scots College

As might be expected from recent events (writes a Rome correspondent), the reception by Pius X. of the Superiors and students of the Scots College excited a good deal of public interest. Before meeting the general body of the students, the Holy Father received Mgr. Fraser, the Rector, the Vice-Rector, two recently ordained priests of the College, and the two young men who have been the victims of the stabbing outrage. His Holiness accorded a most hearty welcome to the wounded students, and repeatedly expressed his sorrow at the occurrence. At the conclusion of this audience, the Pope, accompanied by the little group of Scottish ecclesiastics, left his private apartments and adjourned to the Consistorial Hall, where the main body of the students awaited his arrival. Mgr. Fraser then presented each student individually, after which he asked permission to read an address to his Holiness in the name of the national institution. 'For three centuries,' ran part of the address, 'the Scotch College has rejoiced in the title of Pontifical, and, therefore, cannot but experience a feeling of joy on this happy occasion when the Sovereign Pontiff celebrates the fiftieth year of his priestly ordination. As for the space of five years we have prayed the Lord to grant a long life to a Pope so benign, so we shall never tire of pouring out fervent prayers that God may continue to bless a Pontificate so rich in benefits for the Church and for the world.' Mgr. Fraser then, as already stated, offered the Pope for the use of poor churches some Missals, vestments, and altar covers. His Holiness replied to the address in affectionate terms, thanking the superiors and students of the College for their expressions of congratulation, and giving them thanks also in the name of the poor churches to which their gifts are to be despatched.

SCOTLAND—The Founder of Glasgow University

Lord Rosebery's striking picture of the circumstances under which the University of Glasgow was founded deserves notice. When he was installed Chancellor of the University in succession to the late Lord Kelvin, he said:—'Our founder, Pope Nicholas V., who was also the real founder of the Vatican Library, and the magnificent patron of learning, while he was signing the bull of our foundation he was inditing with the same pen energetic appeals to the Powers of Europe to stem that Turkish torrent of invasion which was about to swallow up the gorgeous capital of Constantine and obliterate the Christian Empire of the East.'

UNITED STATES—A Venerable Priest

Chicago has the distinction of having as a resident probably the oldest priest in the world, Very Rev. Canon J. C. Moynihan, a native of Kanturk, who is 100 years of age, and despite his age is quite active.

Missions to Non-Catholics

There are now in the United States 25 dioceses equipped with mission bands devoted mainly to the work of converting non-Catholics.

The Growth of the Church in a Century

Preaching in the Queenstown Cathedral on his return from America, his Eminence Cardinal Logue said that to give them an idea of the progress of the Catholic Church in the United States he took down a few statistics to bring before their minds what he himself had seen. Before 1808 there was one Bishop in the United States, Bishop Carroll, who had taken such a leading part in the great movement which ended in the independence of the United States. He was the only Bishop, and