

before we leave the quay—something to show that you are glad I am going with you.'

He was still holding her hand in his, and now he touched her fingers with a ring whose emeralds and diamonds glittered in the sunlight. He held it to the top of her finger and looked into her tearful, yet happy eyes.

'May I?'

The happy eyes looked love that knew no doubt or wavering as she moved her finger so that the ring closed over it and sealed their betrothal. And at the same moment the last rope fell with a splash into the water and the steamer moved out to sea.—*Catholic Fireside*.

The Catholic World.

ENGLAND.—An Interesting Purchase.—A Glasgow priest purchased from a street bookseller in Leamington recently a somewhat faded copy of an illuminated missal of the seventeenth century. The volume, for which he paid fourpence, was a fine specimen of art, and its value became considerably enhanced to the owner when he discovered on the flyleaf the inscription, 'Charles Edward; his booke.' It is conjectured that the book, the indubitable property of the young Pretender, had been left behind by him in some country house upon the retreat from Leamington.

ROME.—The Church and the Bible.—At the recent Catholic Conference, the Bishop of Clifton announced that the Decree of the Sacred Congregation of Indulgences, granting an indulgence to those who read the Gospels, would be prefixed to all future editions of the New Testament in English. It may, therefore, be of interest to print the text of the decree:—'Our Most Holy Lord, Pope Leo XIII., in an audience held on December 13, 1898, by the undersigned Cardinal Prefect of the Congregation of Indulgences and Sacred Relics, graciously granted to all the faithful in Christ, of either sex, who piously and devoutly, for at least a quarter of an hour, read the Holy Gospel from an edition which has been recognised and approved by lawful authority, an indulgence of 300 days to be gained once a day; but to those who have every day for a whole month given their time to the aforesaid reading as above, be granted a plenary indulgence, to be gained on any day within the month on which they shall with true repentance have gone to confession and been refreshed by Holy Communion, and at the same time shall have poured out pious prayers to God for the intention of his Holiness. And these indulgences the same Holy Father declared may be applied to the souls detained in the fire of purgatory. These presents to be perpetually valid without the issuing of any brief, anything contrary notwithstanding.—Father Hieronymus M. Cardinal Gotti, Prefect.'

UNITED STATES.—Free Scholarships at St. Francis Xavier's College.—The authorities of St. Francis Xavier's College, New York, have placed a free scholarship at the disposal of the Catholic pastor of every parish in New York.

A Valuable Site.—The property of the Catholic Orphan Asylum, New York, and adjoining the Cathedral, has been just sold for half a million pounds sterling. For nearly half a century the Catholic Orphan Asylum—the most imposing structure on Fifth Avenue—has been a conspicuous landmark. Early in the next century it will be razed to make room for taxable property. A new asylum for the orphans is in course of construction, and will be ready for occupation in June. The new building will be more commodious than the old one, and will cost, with the site, when completed about £100,000.

Death of an Indian Nun in Cuba.—A letter was received recently in Baltimore from the Rev. Father Craft describing the funeral of the Rev. Mother Mary Anthony, assistant general of the Congregation of American Indian Sisters. She died on Sunday, October 15, while attending services in the chapel at Pinar del Rio, Cuba. She was buried October 17 by United States soldiers. Father Craft writes: 'I read the burial service the same as for a soldier. The firing party fired three volleys over the grave and the bugler sounded "taps." She was much beloved by the soldiers whom she had nursed back to health at the sacrifice of her own life, and American soldiers mingled their tears and prayers with those of Cubans and Spaniards.' Mother Anthony was a granddaughter of Chief Spotted Tail and grandniece of Chief Red Cloud.

Nuns at a Quarantine Hospital.—Two Sisters of Mercy from the St. Louis Convent have volunteered to attend the sick in the quarantine hospital at Springfield, and they are now living in tents isolated from the world. 'There is nothing unusual about our Sisters volunteering to nurse the sick or to go out in epidemics,' said the Superioress to a newspaper representative. 'They are doing it all over the world. We have a house in Springfield, and when it became apparent that more nurses were needed, we were told of the state of affairs by the nuns there, who had done all they could. Two of our Sisters at once wrote the Superioress for permission, and when the approval came we wrote to the Mayor of Springfield. He gladly accepted our services. We write to them every day, but they cannot write to us, so we do not know how they are faring. They live in tents in a field about three miles out of Springfield.'

The Foundress of the Sacred Heart Congregation.—By this time (writes an American contemporary) the finding of the ecclesiastical court appointed by Archbishop Kain, of St. Louis, to inquire into the life and acts of Mme. Duchesne with a view to having her ultimately canonized, has been placed in the hands of the proper authorities at Rome. The final sessions were held at St. Charles, Mo., several weeks ago. Mme. Duchesne was one of the

chief promoters of the Sacred Heart congregation. She established the order in America more than 80 years ago. The first institution was in Florissant, Mo., then a bustling metropolis compared to the St. Louis of that day. To-day the Sacred Heart convents are in nearly every large city in the country. Within their walls are nearly 10,000 women devoted to lives of good works. Mme. Duchesne was born at Ladrone, France, in 1770. Her family belonged to the nobility and possessed much wealth. One member of it spurned earthly joys. That was little Philippe. At an early age she evinced a marked love for religion. When 18 years of age she entered the Visitation Convent as a novice. Her father bitterly opposed her choice, but eventually yielded to her wishes. With the French revolution in 1791 came the expulsion of the Visitation nuns from France. They were subjected to many hardships. Sister Philippe tried to re-establish the Visitation Order in her native country some years later, but without success. Then she co-operated with other good women who were forming the Sacred Heart Order, and became a prominent member of that body. She reached New Orleans early in 1818.

A Missionary to the Chinese.—A San Francisco despatch states that Miss Ella M. Clemmons, sister of Mrs. Howard Gould, has decided to devote her life to teaching the doctrines of the Catholic Church to the Chinese, and as soon as she can lease a house in Chinatown suited to her purpose, she intends to open a Catholic Chinese mission. This she will conduct independent of any Order and she will maintain it herself. Miss Clemmons became a convert to the Catholic faith less than two years ago. Shortly after her conversion she decided to give up her pleasant life and give her entire time to the promotion of the faith she had adopted. In looking around for some line of work she became interested in the Chinese, and saw in Chinatown a wide field for Christian endeavour. There is no Catholic Chinese mission in this city, and the idea of founding one seemed to the young woman the right thing for her to do, so she began the study of the Chinese language, and for seventeen months she has laboured to perfect herself. She has learned enough of the language to enable her to carry on the kindergarten method, and she hopes in another year to be able to speak fluently. She has already established two classes of Chinese, and these she teaches during the day and in the evening.

The Catholic Schools of New York.—In speaking of the Catholic schools in Greater New York the *New York Sun* says:—It is not probably known to the average citizen of the large number of children that are educated under the auspices of the Catholic Church, in the parochial schools, nor the large amount of money that is annually saved the non-Catholic taxpayers in the city of New York. This matter is quite pertinent and opportune because of the crowded condition of the public schools and the inability of the Board of Education to provide a large number of children with a full day's attendance in the 390 buildings devoted to education, exclusive of the high schools and normal colleges. There are in the five boroughs of the city no less than 175 Catholic parochial schools, with an attendance of 70,877. The number of schools and the average attendance in each borough are as follows: Brooklyn, 53 schools, number of children attending, 28,877; Manhattan and Bronx, 56 schools, number of children attending, 38,470; Queens Borough, 15 schools, number of children attending, 2,578; and Richmond, 3 schools, number of children attending, 952. The attendance at the schools in Brooklyn ranges from 60 to 1600; Manhattan and Bronx, 67 to 1700; Queens Borough, 50 to 400; and Richmond, 180 to 472. According to the statistics of the Board of Education, the cost of educating every child attending public school is about \$6 10s. According to this average the city is saved about £453,700, which would be the amount necessary to be appropriated for the education of the 70,877 children attending Catholic schools. To this also may be added the cost of the school buildings, some of which are model educational institutions, and cost for construction from £2000 to over £20,000, without the price paid for the ground on which they are built. An average of about £6000 would place the value of the buildings at about £800,000. This added to the cost of education as fixed by the local board would amount to over £1,200,000, money that comes out of the pockets of about one-third of the population and is saved by the city treasury.

WEST INDIES.—An Intrepid Catholic Bishop.—Bishop Gordon, of Jamaica, was on a visit to Scotland recently on his return journey to his diocese from Rome. Since the Bishop was sent out to Jamaica, ten years ago, the Catholic population in that island has considerably increased, and the general condition of the people much bettered. Imbued with Celtic enthusiasm and gifted with indomitable perseverance, his Lordship has done much for the advantage of those under his charge. Since his arrival in the island he has made himself a favourite with all classes of the community, and his opinion on all matters pertaining to the management of the State is considered as very valuable. By all sections he is regarded with the highest esteem, and before leaving for home a few months ago he was made the recipient of a presentation subscribed to by all the islanders. The Right Rev. Charles Gordon, S.J., belongs to a Catholic and Jacobite family of long standing. He is a descendant of the Gordons of Minmore, Glenlivet, Banffshire, Scotland, a branch of the old ducal House of Gordon that at one time held feudal suzerainty over the North of Scotland. Glenlivet, as most of our readers know, is a large district the inhabitants of which are mostly Catholics, whose ancestors have ever remained true to the one faith, in spite of the tyranny and cruelty levelled against them at the time of the so-called Reformation. The Gordons were always loyal to the Stuart line, and the Laird of Minmore played a distinguished part in '15 and '45. The Laird, before setting forth to join the Prince's men, made a simulated conveyance to another of his property on the understanding that, no matter what was the issue of the rising, the estate was to be restored to himself, or, if he fell, to his family.