

universally taught and believed by God's people. To-day it was accepted by 250,000,000 members of the Catholic Church, 100,000,000 of the Greek Church, and 8,000,000 of Jews, as against 150,000,000 of Protestants.

A Statue of the Redeemer.—In connection with the Catholic Union pilgrimage to Rome, it has been decided to raise a fund to pay the cost of the erection of a statue of the Redeemer in front of the new Cathedral at Westminster. It is proposed that the money be subscribed by Catholic youths of all ages. The statue will be blessed by the Pope, and the unveiling ceremony will be performed by Cardinal Vaughan.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society and the Blount Memorial.—The Marquis of Ripon, Brother president, speaking at the quarterly meeting of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the School of Our Lady of Victories, Clapham, announced that an anonymous donor had given the sum of £1,000 to the society, and that through it they would be able to carry out the intended Blount Memorial to its full completion.

Proposed Presentation.—A movement is on foot (says the *Catholic Times*) for presenting a testimonial to the Rev. Father Padbury, of Chelmsford. On December 21st Father Padbury will attain his jubilee in the priesthood, and it is with a view of recognising in a substantial manner the unremitting zeal and piety that he has at all times displayed in the performance of his pastoral duties that the forthcoming presentation will be made. Father Padbury worked for many years in the East-end of London before he succeeded the late Rev. Father Batt at Clemsford.

FRANCE.—Death of Oscar Wilde.—Mr. Oscar Wilde died on Friday (says the *Catholic Times*, December 7), at a hotel in the Rue des Beaux Arts, Paris. The cause of his death was meningitis. Mr. Wilde was recently received into the Catholic Church. The son of a distinguished father and mother, and himself a man of brilliant parts, his fate was truly sad. It may be assumed that whatever responsibility he bore for the charge on which he was convicted five years ago was due to unfortunate associations rather than to deliberate intention. God has certainly been good to him in granting him during his last days the graces and consolations to be obtained through the Sacraments of the Catholic Church. Before being received into the Church by Father Cuthbert Dunne, O.P., Mr. Wilde had during his illness been studying Catholic theology. In passing away he was fortified by the last Sacraments. His remains were interred on Monday at Bagneux, near Chatillon, after a *Requiem* Mass at St. Germain des Prés.

ROME.—The Health of the Holy Father.—The Most Rev. Dr. O'Doherty, on his return from Rome, preached in St. Eugene's Cathedral, Derry. Speaking of the Holy Father, his Lordship said: 'It is five years since I saw him before, and 10 years since I saw him first, and it is almost impossible to discern a change in him. His life is one of incessant labor—labor sufficient,

one would say, for a dozen men. Yet he neglects nothing, leaves nothing unattended to, and when his weary day is done, no matter how late the hour, no matter how exhausted with toil, he gathers around him his household and servants in his private chapel, and joins with them in the devout recital of the rosary and night prayers. What an example for us!'

Tercentenary of Scots College.—The Scots College, Rome, celebrated its tercentenary recently, having been founded by Clement VIII., December 5, 1600. Monsignor Fraser, the Rector, gave a dinner in honor of the occasion, at which Cardinal Logue was present, besides Monsignor Stonor, the Bishop of St. John's, Newfoundland, the Rectors of the English, Irish, Canadian, and American Colleges, and others.

An Impressive Reception.—One of the most impressive receptions of the whole 'Anno Santo' took place on 6th December, when Leo XIII. entered St. Peter's and received the devout homage of nearly 15,000 children belonging to the Catholic schools of Rome. It was a most touching spectacle to see the little ones cheering as the Pope slowly passed up the central aisle in their midst, pausing every now and then to pat a curly head or to bless a group of children that pressed forward more eagerly than the rest, addressing kind words of praise and encouragement to the teachers, and smiling on the surging crowd of little ones. Besides the school children, all the pupils of the different colleges and seminaries were present, including those of the English, Irish, Scotch, and North American Colleges, together with their rectors, so that the whole scholastic population of Catholic Rome may be said to have been assembled under the dome of St. Peter's. The Holy Father, in bestowing Apostolic Benediction on the kneeling thousands before him, was visibly moved, and afterwards remarked to Mgr. Sanminiatielli that no function of the jubilee year had given him greater consolation than the spontaneous and imposing act of homage on the part of those youthful hopes of the Church.

SCOTLAND.—Honoring the Pastor of Alloa.—The parishioners of St. Mungo's, Alloa, at a congregational gathering held recently, over which Father O'Neill presided, presented the Rev. Father Cameron with a purse of sovereigns as an expression of their esteem. Bailie Caldor, a prominent member of the congregation, delivered an address eulogistic of Father Cameron's great worth as a good priest. Father Cameron suitably replied in a grateful speech.

Silver Jubilee of Canon Macdonald.—The Very Rev. Canon Macdonald, of St. Mary's, Paisley, who a few months ago celebrated his silver jubilee as a priest, is about to be honored with a grand testimonial by his congregation. A representative committee has taken the matter in hand.

Memorial to a Generous Benefactor.—Bishop O'Donnell, of Raphoe, has just erected in St. Joseph's Catholic Cemetery, Airdrie, a beautiful grey granite Celtic cross, 112 feet high, over the

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