

with those outside his own church, and that he bids fair to be one of the most popular prelates in England.'

Good Counsel.

The Archbishop of Bourges has received from his Holiness the Pope a letter containing the following very remarkable passage:—'The trouble which you deplore in the minds and acts of your fellow-citizens assuredly causes me keen sorrow, all the more so as we are sure that we have omitted nothing in our paternal love to preserve you from these ills. We are quite persuaded that many bitternesses would have been spared ourselves, many calamities to our country avoided, if all those who in France bear the name of Catholics had been docile and obedient to our voice. And now, if there is any hope of better results, it rests only in the union of minds. The duty of enjoining and seconding this concord devolves especially on those who edit and publish newspapers. But we confess with grief that there are still several journalists who, in an open or covert way, continue to thwart our teachings and exhortations. It therefore, remains for your France, which we ever and ardently love, to pray to God with all her might. We hope that all well-meaning men will also fulfil this duty of prayer, for it depends on a merciful God to remove these misfortunes, which have been caused, not only by injustice of adversaries, but, perhaps, even by the imprudence of the good.'

GERMANY.—Restitution.

South Germany's oldest monastery, the Benedictine Abbey of Wes-sobrun, founded in 735 and confiscated in 1803, has been restored to the Benedictine Order by Baron von Cramer Klett, a Protestant, and will soon be reoccupied by monks. The Baron bought all the lands and remaining buildings of the old abbey from the Bavarian State and sold them to the Benedictines for a nominal sum.

A Privilege Restored.

The Catholic Faculty of Theology in the University of Bonn has succeeded in obtaining the power of conferring Theological Degrees, of which it was some years ago deprived by the Government.

INDIA.—A Memorial.

The first list of contributions to the fund now being raised in memory of Mgr. Goethals, the late Archbishop of Calcutta, amounts to over £2000. The list of donors is headed by the Viceroy, Lord Curzon, of Kedleston, followed by the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, the Chief Justice of the Northwest Provinces and numerous European officials and native princes. It is proposed to erect a school and sanatorium combined by poor Europeans and East Indian children on the hills, where they would be saved from disease and early death and fitted amidst healthy surroundings for their work in life.

ROME.—Divorce Legislation.

As a result of the eloquent Allocution pronounced by the Holy Father

in the last Consistory on the proposed Divorce Bill, the Italian Catholics are opposing a determined resistance to the proposed law which the Zanardelli Cabinet are trying to push through Parliament at the instigation of the Socialists and anticlericals.

The Pope's Health.

A Rome correspondent, writing under date January 14, says: The Holy Father continues to grant a large number of audiences daily, and in spite of the cold 'tramontana' weather, which has filled the hospitals to overflowing, and considerably increased the rate of mortality in Rome, his Holiness enjoys excellent health.

The Gambling Vice.

The 'Osservatore Romano,' one of the recognised organs of the Vatican, has been setting polite society in Rome by the ears by fierce denunciations of the widespread gambling in the Eternal City. The paper has not hesitated to denounce so-called fashionable clubs as gambling hells, in which some of Rome's richest families have been ruined. The paper asserts that a young Duke recently lost several millions of lire in one of these establishments, and immediately committed suicide. The fact that these hells have enjoyed complete immunity for a long time is explained by the fact that they are frequented by a crowd of Deputies and Senators, and former Ministers, and under the nominal patronage of King Victor Emmanuel.

SCOTLAND.—The Schools.

The Scottish hierarchy (says the 'Irish Catholic') are anxiously considering the unsatisfactory financial relations of the Catholic schools of the country in regard to the rates levied on Catholics, as well as Protestants, for the support of the Board schools. It may be explained that the Board schools in Scotland receive from the local rates an average sum of 33s per head for each child, while the Catholic schools, whose supporters are equally taxed for education, receive not a penny of the rates. Some form of protest, which will be likely to have practical effect, has yet to be devised, and it is to this end that the Catholic bishops and clergy are directing their attention.

SOUTH AFRICA.—A Protest.

The Catholics of Capetown at a public meeting held last week protested against the terms of the Accession Oath.

UNITED STATES.

It is rumored in Vatican circles (says the 'Catholic Times') that the Holy Father intends to create four new sees in the United States, as the present hierarchy is not in proportion with the ever-increasing development of the Church across the Atlantic.

A Temperance Advocate.

The Executive Council of the Catholic Total Abstinence Union took advantage of the elevation of the Right Rev. Mgr. Conaty, Rector

of the Catholic University, to the episcopacy as 'Titular-Bishop of Samos to draw up a testimonial of respect and esteem. The whole of Bishop Conaty's public career, both as a priest and as a Domestic Prelate to his Holiness, has been closely identified in the ranks of the organised total abstinence movement and lately in official positions as vice-president of the Catholic Total Abstinence Union of America. He has all along been a most enthusiastic promoter of the agencies which have for their purpose the suppression of the vice of intemperance and the uplifting of his fellow-men to higher standards of civil and spiritual manhood. At a special meeting of the executive the following resolution was passed, and a copy ordered to be engrossed and presented to Mgr. Conaty:—'That we look on the Holy Father's selection of Monsignor Conaty for the office of Bishop as an added testimony of his profound interest in the welfare of the Catholic University of America and the cause of higher education in the United States. Temperance and education are twin graces. They are most potent agencies, making for clearer heads and stouter hearts and cleaner lives, and they who encourage them most are amongst the best wishers of the Catholic people in America, and the most earnest workers for their welfare.'

Historical Essay.

The American Catholic Historical Society of Philadelphia some months ago offered a prize of 100 dollars for the best essay on a subject bearing upon the history of the Church in America. The contest was open to students in Catholic seminaries, colleges, academies, and high schools in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. The essay was to be based on original research, and at least 17,500 words in length. The contest closed on August 15, 1901, and the result has just been made public. The prize essay was that written by Miss Pauline Lancaster Peyton, a pupil of St. Mary's academy, Notre Dame, Indiana, and was entitled 'Pierre Gibault, Priest and Patriot.' The 100 dollars and the letter of notification reached the successful competitor on December 18, just as she was leaving for the Christmas holidays.

Church Building.

During the year 1901, 22 new churches and chapels, six hospitals and asylums and 12 educational institutions were erected in Texas.

An Object Lesson.

It would help many persons to realise the catholicity of the Church if they could be present at the New Year's function at which the President of the United States receives the congratulations of the ambassadors and envoys of foreign countries (thinks the 'Ave Maria'). This year 35 sovereigns were represented; and of these 22 were professedly Catholic, six heathen one schismatic, and six Lcotequant. It may also be noted, as illustrating the hostility of the Church to republican

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