

the present; but it would be unwise to speculate what course events will take when once the King fills the throne and frees himself from the wise discretion of his mother.

UNITED STATES.

A banner is to be presented by the American Catholic pilgrimage to Leo XIII. This banner will be a masterpiece. It is to be of white and yellow silk in panels fringed with gold. Over the banner partially falls a curtain of white silk, embroidered on the sides with American beauty roses. Wrought in gold on the centre piece is the following: 'Solemn Homage to Leo XIII., 1902.' Underneath, beautifully wrought in colors and flanked by lilies of silver and gold are the Papal arms, and the coat-of-arms of the United States. On the reverse of the banner is the following motto artistically wrought in gold: 'The Ecclesiastical Province of New York in Pilgrimage to Rome for the Pontifical Jubilee, 1902.' On the centre of the reverse side will be wrought the coat-of-arms of the Archdiocese of New York, and surrounding it the coats-of-arms of the dioceses of Albany, Buffalo, Ogdensburg, Syracuse, Brooklyn, Newark, Rochester and Trenton, each diocese, of course, in its proper colors. The entire banner, in its elaborateness of design, will be embroidered by the most skilful hands, and no effort will be spared to make it worthy of presentation to Leo XIII. On the occasion of the Papal audience the Very Rev. E. H. Porcile will present this banner to the Pope, who will doubtless accept it as a symbol of the loyalty of Catholic America to the See of Peter.

An Appointment.

President Roosevelt has just appointed Archbishop Ryan of Philadelphia a member of the Board of Indian Commissioners in succession to the Protestant Bishop of Whipple, who died recently. This is the first Catholic appointment to this Board, and it probably marks a new departure in the conduct of Indian affairs by the United States Government. Why some such step was not taken before, seeing that so long ago as 1894 the Washington authorities voted no less than 389,745 dollars towards the Catholic Indian schools seems very strange. Bigotry and political corruption combined, however, says the Chicago 'New World,' succeeded, for the last appropriation was reduced to less than 60,000 dollars, 'to be distributed among 26 Catholic schools and one Protestant Episcopal Indian school.' Yet the Indian population has not decreased, and the Catholic schools, as the wholly Protestant Board has acknowledged, are more efficient than ever. It is to be hoped that the appointment of Dr. Ryan—who, by the way, was born in the little village of Cloneyharph, Tipperary, over 70 years ago—will bring a new spirit into the administration of the Indian schools. In any case the appointment is a tardy recognition of the service the Catholic Church has rendered to the tribes for generations, and the President deserves to be congratulated on the event.

A Venerable Prelate.

Archbishop Williams, of Boston, was 80 years old on May 4. A great diocesan celebration, both religious and social, but wholly clerical, took place, when the greatest gathering of New England priests ever seen attended Solemn High Mass at the cathedral of the Holy Cross on Sunday, and honored the venerable metropolitan on Tuesday with a banquet. Chief among the simple and sincere tokens with which the clergy showed their affection and admiration was a large bronze tablet, memorial of his period of episcopacy and of the founding and erection of the cathedral.

GENERAL.

Patagonia.
The two dioceses of Patagonia, South America, contain 103,000

Catholics, have 56 priests and 44 schools.

A Persian Diocese.

The diocese of Isphahan, Persia, contains 14,000 Catholics, has 12 missionary priests, 65 native priests, 47 Catholic schools and three hospitals and asylums.

Mesopotamia

The ancient land of Mesopotamia is known to all readers of the Bible. It is not so well known, however, that it contains 66,000 Catholics, has 50 foreign missionaries, 155 native priests, 84 schools and 24 charitable institutions.

The Church in Siam.

Aside from the 86 foreign missionaries laboring in the kingdom of Siam, 14 native priests are engaged in exacting service. There are now 26,000 Catholics in that country.

Too Much for His Philosophy.

A Virginia member of Congress used many years ago to tell a story which may have been intended as a parable for politicians who approach questions from the wrong side. It is still capable of performing that office, not only for politicians, but for others.

The proprietor of a tanyard built a stand on one of the main streets of a Virginia town for the purpose of selling leather and buying raw hides.

When he had completed the building, he considered for a long time what sort of sign to put up to attract attention to the new establishment. Finally a happy thought struck him. He bored an auger hole through the door post and stuck a calf's tail into it with the tufted end outside.

After awhile he saw a solemn-faced man standing near the door looking at the sign, his eyes in a round, meditative stare behind his spectacles. The tanner watched him a minute, then stepped out and addressed him.

'Good morning, sir!' he said.
'Morning,' said the other, without taking his eyes off the sign.
'Want to buy leather?' asked the tanner.
'No.'
'Got any hides to sell?'
'No.'
'Are you a farmer?'
'No.'
'Merchant?'
'No.'
'Lawyer?'
'No.'
'Doctor?'
'No.'
'What are you, then?'
'I'm a philosopher. I've been standing here for an hour trying to figure out how that calf got through that auger hole.'

Mary and Her Little Lamb

Everybody knows the story of Mary and her little lamb (says the 'Ave Maria'), but not everyone knows that Mary E Sawyer, who was born near Worcester, Massachusetts, was the heroine of the poem.

When Mary was a little girl she found a new-born lamb nearly dead with hunger and cold. She tenderly nursed it back to life and became devotedly attached to her gentle charge. The lamb was her constant companion and playmate, and was to her what a doll is to most children. For hours she would dress her lamb and 'make believe' it was her baby. One day her brother suggested that she take the lamb to school with her. The thought so delighted Mary that she started earlier than usual for the schoolhouse, reached there before the other scho-

lars, and put the little lamb under her seat, where it lay contentedly.

When Mary's turn came for her recitations the lamb ran down the aisle after her, to the intense delight of the pupils and the surprise of the teacher. The lamb was put outside, and it waited on the doorstep for Mary and followed her home. A young man named John Roulston chanced to be a visitor at the school and the pathetic incident led him to compose the stanzas, which he presented to the owner of the lamb. Some years after Miss Sawyer was married to Mr. Columbus Tyler.

When the lamb was old enough to shear, Mary's mother knit her two pairs of stockings of the wool, and Mrs. Tyler kept these stockings until she was eighty years old. When the 'Old South Church' of Boston was raising money, she unravelled a pair of the stockings and wound the yarn on small cards, upon which she wrote her autograph; and these cards were sold for upward of \$100. Mrs. Tyler died in December, 1889.

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