

INTERCOLONIAL.

On Friday morning, June 6, his Excellency the Governor of New South Wales, accompanied by Major Holan, A.D.C., paid a visit to his Grace the Coadjutor-Archbishop at St. Mary's. The Vice-Regal party was received by the Right Rev. Monsignor O'Brien, the Very Rev. Dean Slattery, Very Rev. Dean Healy, the Very Rev. P. A. Slattery, O.F.M., the Very Rev. P. C. O'Regan (Adm.), the Rev. J. Whyte (Inspector of Diocesan Schools), and the Rev. M. A. Flemming (Archbishop's private secretary). Sir Harry Rawson also paid a visit to the Cathedral, and expressed surprise and admiration at the magnificent structure.

On Thursday, June 5, the eve of the Feast of the Sacred Heart just as the sun was sinking in the west (says the *Freeman's Journal*), the sweet and gentle spirit of Mother Mary Agnes was calmly passing away at the Convent of Mercy, Bathurst. Mother Agnes was one of the very oldest Sisters of Mercy in the world, being in the 59th year of her religious profession. She was the youngest daughter of the late Mr M. M'Sweeney, Customs Officer in County Cork, Ireland, a sister of the Very Rev. D. M'Sweeney, County Cork, and cousin of the Venerable Archbishop of Cashel, Dr. Croke. The deceased was born at Queenstown in 1823, and at the early age of 16 entered the Convent of Mercy, Charleville.

On August 24 the Very Rev. Father Le Rennetel, S.M., the popular parish priest of St. Patrick's, Sydney, will celebrate his silver jubilee. With a view to marking the occasion in a fitting manner a number of his friends and admirers have decided to make him a presentation of an address and a purse of sovereigns. At a meeting held recently for this purpose the Mayor of Sydney presided, and a sum of nearly £100 was promised. Father Pere Le Rennetel was born in Brittany (France) in 1851. Educated at St. Meen's College, near Rennes, he was ordained priest on August 24, 1877, and two years later sailed for Australia, arriving in Sydney in November, 1879. His first appointment was to St. Michael's, Dawes Point, whence he went to St. John's College, Camperdown. In 1883 he was appointed parish priest of St. Patrick's, where he has since labored, and earned the respect and goodwill of all with whom he has come in contact.

The question of raffling at bazaars (writes the Sydney correspondent of the *Southern Cross*) has once more been under fierce discussion among non-Catholics. A few weeks back some members of Parliament attended an Anglican bazaar at Grafton, and advised the stallholders not to mind the scruples of their pastor, Archdeacon Moxon, but to go in for raffles if they wanted to make the bazaar interesting and to make money. They followed the advice, and the Archdeacon closed up the bazaar and returned the money to those who invested in raffles. There was great indignation on both sides, the parishioners looking upon it as an infringement of the right of private judgment. At the Newcastle Synod, on a motion sympathising with Archdeacon Moxon, Bishop Stretch lashed the pious people. He said that the Ten Commandments were quite as much as most people could observe, and he objected to the Synod adding their commandments. By doing so in this instance they would be making a guilty thing of an innocent thing. Much of the talk against raffling was 'goody-goody.' As the Devil said in 'Faust,' it was 'Words, words, words.' He repeated that much of the feeling in this matter was prompted by goody-goodyness rather than goodness. An attempt was being made to blink the fact that the motive was the test all the time. There was no gambling where there was no self-interest. He would vote against the amendment because he objected to tyranny. He had a very great objection to Synods or anybody else making commandments which were not of Divine origin.

Cardinal Moran (writes the Rome correspondent of the Sydney *Freeman's Journal*, under date May 5) has been feted and visited almost day in and day out during his stay in Rome, a guest at home in the Irish College, and outside, in the houses of friends and in conventual and ecclesiastical institutions. Meantime, he has been busy at work. But of all his movements in Rome, since those reported in my letter of April 12, the most important and interesting is the visit which he paid to the Holy Father during the week just ended. The Cardinal, it will be remembered had already enjoyed two private audiences with the Pope. On this occasion he had two more; one before, and the other after, a presentation of visitors, which was as if an Australasian pilgrimage to the Silver Jubilee of the Pontificate of Leo XIII., and which in this way should be the embryo of many another. Not all presented were Catholics, nor were all residents of Australia; a few were Australasians resident in Rome, others were the Australian students of the Irish and Urban Colleges. Among the lay members of the deputation were Mrs Baker, of Adelaide, the mother of Sir Richard Baker, the President of the Upper House of the Commonwealth Parliament, with whom were Miss Baker and Miss Ross; Mrs Loughnan, of Christchurch (N.Z.), with whom were her daughters, the Misses Loughnan; Mrs and Miss Harper, of Christchurch; Mr Loughnan (nephew of Mrs Loughnan), and Mrs Howard, Miss Geraghty, and Miss Quirk, both of Melbourne; Miss Mann, and others, of Sydney. Among the ecclesiastics were the Very Rev Dean O'Connell, of Hay, New South Wales; the Rev Father Fitzsimmons, of Rockhampton; and, finally, some Australian religious belonging to the Little Sisters of the Poor and to the Little Company of Mary. In all, more than 50 persons were presented and received by the Pope as Australasian pilgrims. The Cardinal also introduced the Very Rev. Canon Hutch, of Middleton, Ireland; Mrs Mulhall, the widow of Mr Mulhall, the statistician; Miss Dease, the daughter of Mr Edmund Dease; and Miss Kennedy, all of them Irish visitors in Rome.

Friends at Court

GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- June 29, Sunday.—Seventh Sunday after Pentecost. SS. Peter and Paul.
 30, Monday.—Commemoration of St. Paul, Apostle.
 July 1, Tuesday.—Octave of the Feast of St. John the Baptist.
 2, Wednesday.—Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
 3, Thursday.—St. Paul I., Pope and Confessor.
 4, Friday.—St. Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr.
 5, Saturday.—St. Anthony Mary Zaccarias, Confessor.

ST. PETER, APOSTLE.

St. Peter, Prince of the Apostles, and the ardent lover of his Divine Master, before his vocation to the apostleship was called Simon. He was the son of Jonas and brother of St. Andrew. St. Peter originally resided at Bethsaida, a town much enlarged and beautified by Herod the Tetrarch, in Upper Galilee, on the banks of the Lake or Sea of Genesareth. This town was honored by the presence of Our Lord, Who, in the course of His ministry, preached and wrought miracles in it. Its inhabitants, however, were for the most part a stupid and obstinate set of people, and their abuse of the grace that was offered them deserved the dreadful woe which Christ denounced against them. St. Peter and St. Andrew were religious, docile, and humble in the midst of a perverse and worldly-minded people. They were educated in the laborious trade of fishing, which was their father's calling. From Bethsaida St. Peter removed to Capharnaum, probably on account of his marriage, for his wife's mother dwelt there. Andrew accompanied his brother thither, and they still followed their trade as before. Simon believed in Christ before he saw Him. In his heart first of all grew up the conviction, and from his lips came the confession: 'Thou art the Christ the Son of the living God.' And so Our Lord chose him, and fitted him to be the rock of His Church.

Ten years after the Ascension he went to Rome, the centre of the majestic Roman Empire, where were gathered the glories and the wealth of the earth and all the powers of evil. There he established his chair, and for 25 years labored with St. Paul in building up the great Roman Church. He was crucified by order of Nero, and buried on the Vatican Hill.

COMMEMORATION OF ST. PAUL, APOSTLE.

After his Baptism St. Paul spent three years preparing himself in solitude and prayer for the work of the Apostolate. At the end of that time he proceeded to Jerusalem to confer with St. Peter. During his stay in the Holy City he preached in the synagogues with such success that the fanatical Jews endeavored to take away his life. The missionary career on which he thus entered terminated only with his death. The history of his labors, journeys, and sufferings occupies the greater part of the Book of the Acts of the Apostles. In the midst of his labors he found time to write to the different churches the fourteen Epistles which form portion of the New Testament, and which manifest so clearly his lively faith, his zeal for souls, and especially his ardent love of his crucified Lord. St. Paul was beheaded outside Rome, near the place where the magnificent basilica which bears his name now stands.

ST. IRENEUS, BISHOP AND MARTYR.

St. Irenaeus was born between 130-140 at Smyrna, Asia Minor, and had from his earliest youth the happiness of being instructed by St. Polycarp and other apostolic men. His deep attachment to the Christian doctrine did not prevent him from studying the Greek poets and philosophers, especially Homer and Plato. With a view to missionary work, he journeyed to Gaul, where he was ordained priest by Photinus, Bishop of Lyons, who suffered martyrdom in the persecution of Marcus Aurelius (178). Irenaeus was nominated to succeed him as bishop by Pope Eleutherius, to whom he had been sent on an ecclesiastical mission. In this office he showed untiring zeal and energy for the good of the Churches in Gaul. Moreover, by means of his writings in defence of the unity and purity of the faith, which was endangered by the Gnostics, he made his influence felt far beyond the limits of Gaul. Finally, he proved himself worthy of his name (Eirenaeos, the Peaceful) by effecting a happy compromise between the East and the West in the dispute concerning Easter, which had gone so far as to cause an open rupture between the two sections of the Church. In the great persecution under Septimius Severus, the shepherd suffered martyrdom with many of his flock (June 28th, 202). Of his writings only fragments remain, with the exception of the work *Against Heresies*, in five books, which he wrote principally to refute the Gnostics' heresies. The existing Latin version is very ancient and accurate, and was used even by Tertullian. In this work the author discusses nearly all the Catholic dogmas; among others, Tradition, the Primacy of the Roman See, the Incarnation, the Holy Eucharist, the Sacrifice of the Mass, and the Resurrection.

In cases of Sprains or any injury to the limbs the application of WITCH'S OIL gives instant relief.—*.*

The Rev. Father W. J. Riordan, of Geraldton, Western Australia, who was on a visit to his sister, Mrs. Cusack, of Darlington, died at her residence on June 1. The deceased, who was 60 years of age, had not been well for some time while officiating in his parish in Western Australia. About six weeks ago he arrived in Sydney in the hope that the change would improve his health, but he gradually became worse, and died as stated.