

would refuse other honors since he desired to be as free as air in his service of God and the people. According to statements made by the German papers within the last few days, Dr. Lieber's resolution was put to the test. He was offered a Provincial Presidency. The Presidencies of the 14 Prussian provinces are, it need hardly be said, posts of high responsibility. Those who hold them receive a salary of 21,000 marks, and are lodged at the expense of the State. Dr. Lieber was, it appears, sounded as to whether he would take such a position, and gave a courteous refusal. Then he was sent for by the Emperor, who asked him to accept the presidency of the province of Hesse-Nassau. When he declined the offer, his Majesty proposed that he should accept an order. Dr. Lieber, whilst thanking him, firmly assured him that he was resolved to remain a plain man of the people to the end. 'Well, then, Doctor,' said the Emperor, 'you will at least accept a portrait of your Sovereign.' This, of course, Dr. Lieber very willingly did, and the portrait was handed to him with his Majesty's autograph.

#### HOLLAND.—Dutch Pilgrims.

The Holy Father, on receiving the Dutch pilgrims on May 8, inspired them all with the lively sense of joy by attesting in a very marked manner his interest in Holland, its ruler, and its people, and his satisfaction with the progress of the Church in that country. The pilgrimage, which was under the direction of Mgr. van de Wetering, Archbishop of Utrecht, embraced many men who hold representative public positions or offices at the Court, and they were visibly affected by the keen sympathy which his Holiness showed for the suffering Queen. She had, he said, evinced a most courteous disposition towards him, especially in the letter which she sent through the recent embassy, and day by day he earnestly prayed for her recovery. A burst of loud applause greeted this intimation. Then the Pontiff tendered his congratulations to Mgr. van de Wetering, Mgr. Schaepman, and the other pilgrims, on the work that has been done for the Church within recent years in Holland. His Holiness has raised Mgr. Schaepman to the dignity of Proto-Notary Apostolic, in order to give him, as the Brief says, 'a proof of his goodwill.' For years Mgr. Schaepman has been the leader of the Dutch Catholics in public life, and largely through his prudent guidance they have become a power in the State.

#### INDIA.—Catholic Successes.

Of the 20 scholarships awarded at the Primary Examination, in Calcutta, 13 have been secured by the pupils of the schools of the Jesuit Fathers, the Christian Brothers, and the Loretto Nuns, and one at St. Anthony's School at Boitackhana.

#### ROME.—The American Mission.

In spite of the determined opposition which the proposed American mission to the Holy See met with in

influential Protestant circles across the Atlantic (writes a Rome correspondent), I am in a position to inform you that this important diplomatic event may already be considered as 'fait accompli.' The Governor of the Philippines, Mr. Taft, will be the American Envoy Extraordinary, and he will be accompanied in a semi-official capacity by other well-known personages, including the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Gorman, Bishop of Sioux Falls, who has already arrived in Rome. The American mission will be received by the Holy Father before the end of May, and it is regarded as certain in Vatican and diplomatic circles here that this act of homage and courtesy on the United States' part towards the Sovereign Pontiff will be followed in the near future by the establishment of regular and permanent diplomatic relations between the Holy See and the United States Government. The principal object of the American mission is to arrive at a definite understanding with the Vatican concerning the spiritual organisation of the Philippine Islands, but many other equally important topics will doubtless come under discussion when Mr. Taft and Cardinal Rampolla meet. That the Holy Father is animated by the greatest friendliness towards the United States, even as regards the unfortunate and delicate question of the Philippines is proved by the fact that in the forthcoming Consistory he will appoint Dr. Mesmer, Bishop of Green Bay, to the Archiepiscopal See of Manila, hitherto always occupied by a Spanish prelate.

#### SCOTLAND.—A Memorial.

A fund has been inaugurated for the purpose of placing in the Edinburgh Catholic Cathedral a memorial window to the late Archbishop MacDonald. It is also proposed to place the names of all the deceased bishops and Archbishops of Edinburgh on the slab over the episcopal vaults.

#### SPAIN.—An English Address.

A number of English friends and well-wishers of Spain acted on the suggestion made by Major Martin Hume and sent a congratulatory address to Don Alfonso XIII. on his accession to the throne of Spain on May 17. Among the signatories were Cardinal Vaughan and a number of members of the Houses of Parliament, including the Duke of Norfolk, besides many representative men in journalism, literature, science, and commerce.

#### A Devoted Queen

Senor Segasta, in presenting to the Queen for her signature the last decree she was to sign as Regent of Spain, delivered an eloquent address to her Majesty. Sixteen years and a half had elapsed, during which the Queen was sacrificing her youth, a slave to duty, and a jealous guardian of her children. She had suffered much, finding at last compensation to-day in the happiness of the King. The Queen was moved to tears. She hoped, she said, that the statesmen of Spain would help her

son as effectively as they had helped her. He was still very young and needed the counsel of them all.

#### UNITED STATES.

The 'Atlanta Age,' a paper conducted in the interests of the colored people, in writing with reference to the will of the late Colonel McKee, says:—'While the adherents of the Catholic communion are not free from race prejudice, and while the Catholic Church, like the sects of Protestantism, takes on the color of the surrounding local atmosphere, it is, nevertheless, true that race prejudice among Catholics is less pronounced where races differing in physical appearance come into contact, than among Protestants under similar conditions. A good illustration of this is found here in Washington. The Columbian University, a Protestant institution of learning, positively refuses to admit any person of African descent to any of its courses. The Catholic University of America admits any person to its courses, measuring up to its moral and intellectual standards, regardless of religion or race. A number of young colored men have taken post graduate studies at the Catholic University. Of these, one was a Catholic the others being members of Protestant sects, and of these latter one was a Congregational clergyman. Such is Protestantism and Catholicism at the nation's capital. Whereupon the 'Boston Pilot' remarks:—'Whatever an individual churchman may do, the spirit of the Church is always the same on the race question. As now in the Catholic University, Washington, so has it always been in the halls of the Propaganda, Rome, where side by side sit the white, black, brown and yellow candidates for the priesthood.'

#### Mass for Night Workers.

For just one year Mass has been celebrated at 2.30 o'clock Sunday mornings in St. Andrew's Church, New York, for the Catholic night workers. Archbishop Corrigan had promised before his illness to celebrate the first anniversary Mass. Nearly 500 attend regularly, and a choir composed of printers renders the musical programmes.

#### The Paulists.

A very important indication of the success achieved by the Paulists is now given in the American press. The Rev. Walter Elliott, C. S. P., has been authorised by the Directors of the Catholic Missionary Union to collect funds for the erection and endowment of a Mission House or College where priests may be prepared to labor as missionaries, especially in the South and in the insular possessions of the United States. The training will be distinctively adapted to missionary aims. The inmates of the Mission House are not merely to have special courses of study, but they will have opportunities of mixing freely with missionaries who have labored amongst the people. Facilities will also be afforded them for assisting now and then in practical missionary work. The project,

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