

Catholic World

ENGLAND.—A New Church.

A very fine new church, dedicated to Our Lady Star of the Sea, has been opened at Lowestoft.

Club for Soldiers.

A club for Catholic soldiers has been started in London, under the guidance of Mr. Lister Drummond.

Presentation.

Her Majesty the Queen has presented to the Catholic Danish Nuns of the Order of St. Joseph a sum of £50 towards the support of their hospitals in Ireland, where many British and Irish sailors and fishermen fall sick and are nursed by the nuns. The Rev. Bernard Vaughan, S.J., by permission of his brother, Cardinal Vaughan, has been pleading the cause of the Sisters in several of the Catholic churches of the archdiocese of Westminster.

The Catholic Clergy.

There are 2850 Catholic priests in England and Wales, and 465 in Scotland, or 3300 on the island of Great Britain (says the 'Catholic Citizen'). There are, among the Catholic clergy of Great Britain, 21 Fathers Ryan, 16 Fathers Power, 17 Fathers Murphy, 11 Fathers McCarthy, 33 Fathers Kelly, 14 Fathers Byrne, and 165 priests whose names begin with the Irish prefix 'O.' Fully two-fifths of the Catholic priests of Great Britain have Irish names. The hierarchy, however, is English and Scotch. Out of the 25 bishops, the only Irish names are Bishop Cahill of Portsmouth and Bishop Maguire, auxiliary of Glasgow.

Obituary.

Dean Aggelo Lucas, a Catholic dignitary well known in East Anglia, died early in June at Colchester. The son of a metropolitan Member of Parliament, he was a direct descendant of Sir Charles Lucas, who was shot by Fairfax after the siege of Colchester.

FRANCE.—Stopping Stipends.

Twelve French priests have had their stipends stopped arbitrarily by the Government on the ground that they have, it is alleged, interfered in the recent elections.

Church and State.

The new Prime Minister of the French Republic has lost no time in showing that in him the Catholic Church has to expect a determined foe. In the first address to the Chamber of Deputies he laid down his programme as a crusade against Caesarism and clericalism, 'until these enemies of the Republic are disarmed.' Caesarism, he considers, to be of little account. But clericalism is quite another thing. He will respect the Concordat, but he will see that the clergy respect it to. They must be confined to religious affairs, and under no circumstances venture to intervene in politics. The law against the religious Orders he will rigorously carry out, but with some measure of amenity in applying its provisions to such communities as work among the sick and the poor. As to education, he will demand that it be made a sphere of activity in which the State shall be supreme. Summing up his policy, it is war to the death with clericalism and nationalism, against which the whole strength of the Republic is to be directed. The Chamber adopted his programme with enthusiasm, and marked its approval by giving him a majority of 205 votes on the division.

A Hope.

In spite of so much that looks dark in the prospects of the Church in France, there is just a possibility that her position may be improved. The magistrature is showing itself

disinclined to impose penalties on clergymen for merely governmental offences. They insist on strict interpretations of the Concordat, and refuse to forbid any priest to exercise the functions of his sacred calling at the request of the Public Prosecutor. Thus, at Troyes, at Moulins, at Sarlat, and at Rheims, Jesuits accused under the Law of Associations have been declared innocent of any wrongdoing for saying Mass and preaching; these acts, the magistrates held, were part of their rights as priests whose existence in France is recognised by the terms of the Concordat. So also at Chaubery the Assumptionists, on appeal, were declared free from any legal fault. It is perhaps too much to hope that the French magistrature, a high-minded body of jurists, numbering amongst its members many men of sternly religious views, will be able to resist the pressure which the Government will bring to bear upon it. Should it decline to convict all may be well; but the influence exerted on the legal tribunals by the executive of Continental Cabinets gives us little reason to hope that M. Combes will fail to find means to carry out his persecuting programme against the Orders.

Nuns in Hospitals.

In two of the Paris hospitals, viz., the Hotel Dieu and the hospital St. Louis, nuns are still in charge of the sick. The Municipal Council of Paris, at one of its last sittings, had under consideration a motion requesting the Government to expel the nuns from those hospitals, and to entrust the care of the patients to secular nurses. A long and violent discussion took place on the proposal, which ultimately was defeated by only one vote—34 voting for it and 35 against it. The majority considered that it was inadvisable to periodically raise discussions on this subject, and accordingly moved a further resolution to the effect that the Municipal Council should not take into consideration proposals for the laicisation of hospitals unless a referendum of the municipal electors had been taken on the subject. This was carried by a majority of 6, and it is not likely that we shall hear, for some time to come, of the expulsion of the nuns from the Paris hospitals.

ROME.—Impressive Ceremony.

At a most impressive ceremony were assembled within the walls of San Silvestro in Capite the official representatives of Great Britain, members of the Roman Court and nobility, and the English-speaking colony. This was the Te Deum in thanksgiving for the proclamation of peace in South Africa on the afternoon of Sunday, June 8. The Hon. and Most Rev. Mgr. Stonor, Archbishop of Trebizond, officiated and gave Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

SCOTLAND.—Death of a Priest.

We ('Catholic Herald') regret to announce the death of the Very Rev. Canon Condon, of St. Patrick's Glasgow, one of the oldest and most esteemed clergymen in Scotland. Canon Condon was an Irishman by birth, his native place being Coolcappa, County Limerick, where he was born on September 23, 1817. He was educated at Youghal College and at All Hallows, and was ordained by Bishop Murdoch, of Glasgow, in 1845. Father Condon first served at St. Mary's, Glasgow, where his work among the Irish immigrants during the terrible famine years was of the most heroic and devoted kind. Afterwards he had charge of the mission at Campbelltown, and subsequently at Hamilton. In 1859 he was removed to Greenock, and in 1885 he was brought to Glasgow and was placed in charge of St. Patrick's. When the Cathedral Chapter of Glasgow was inaugurated in 1884, Father Condon's splendid labors merited for

him one of the first appointments, and he became Canon. In 1895 he celebrated his golden jubilee, and on that occasion the entire archdiocese of Glasgow united in doing honor to the veteran ecclesiastic, the singular sweetness of whose disposition, combined with intense piety, unflinching charity, and real patriotism, won him a warm place in all hearts. His death will be widely and deeply mourned.

A Work of Charity.

The report of the St. Vincent de Paul Council of Edinburgh for the year 1901 has just been issued. In presenting their report for 1901 the Council record a further increase in the income of the Society of £205 16s 11d, the total income now being £1718 4s 0½d, against £1512 7s 1½d in 1900 and £1408 19s 9½d in 1899. The increase is mainly accounted for by church door offerings amounting to £36 18s 1d, and subscriptions and donations to £81 1s 7d.

SPAIN.—Authorisation.

According to official statistics published in Madrid, down to June 1, 6000 religious congregations had inscribed their names on the lists for authorisation.

UNITED STATES.—Porto Rico.

Bishop Blenk, of San Juan, Porto Rico, was at Mount St. Mary's College, Emmitsburg, Md., recently, when he made the following interesting statements concerning his diocese. The Church in Porto Rico, it may be remarked, has come in for a great deal of criticism from the Protestant missionaries who have gone there since the acquisition of the island by the United States. 'Yes, I am from Porto Rico,' said Bishop Blenk, 'and perhaps I should say something of that little island. Who knows but that some of you have heard things discreditable to the Church in Porto Rico, and that your hearts have been filled with pity for that little island? I am supremely gratified to say that you need not blush for the Catholicity of Porto Rico. I make no claim of being a prophet, but I have the deepest conviction that in a few years Porto Rico will be one of the grandest and most fervid Catholic dioceses under the Stars and Stripes.' Bishop Blenk further stated (says the 'Sacred Heart Review') that in his dealings with United States officials he has met with straightforward treatment, and he feels satisfied that the government means to be perfectly fair to the Church. Among other encouraging movements in the island, he referred to the association of Catholic laymen which was formed to act in unison with the Church authorities in adjusting Church affairs to the new order of things.

GENERAL.

Italian Catholic Societies.

Italian Catholic societies of New York city have federated with about 12,000 members. The object is to unite the Italian Catholic societies for the betterment of their religious, social, and intellectual conditions.

Jew Baiting.

Never (says the 'Catholic Times') have we had any sympathy with the unreligious fanatics who, in the name of God try to deprive their neighbor of his civil rights. Anti-Semitism is as logically indefensible as it is morally unjust. And it runs counter to the actions and policy of the Roman Pontiffs, who did much to defend the persecuted Jews against the violence and fanaticism of medieval ignorance. Consequently we deeply deplore the wrong which is being wreaked on the Jews by the Roumanian Government. Under a system of tyranny that Government has entered on a crusade to suppress the Jews, of whom there are about a quarter of a million in the country. It excludes them from the public service; forbids them to act as collectors of the