

of the arrears. Why you don't know what fortune may be lying hidden in those discolored old pictures you have hanging around the house. Well, I congratulate you both with all my heart. Now that you're a rich man, you can afford to take care of yourself. Make him nurse himself up for this winter, Mrs. Donnellan. He can get someone else to cart the hay and straw and look after the farm till he's able to do it himself. Dr. Fletcher says he'll be all right with a little care. By the bye, Mrs. Crawford said I was to thank you for the splendid Christmas turkey you sent up. It does credit to your feeding, but it is much too good of you. I'm sure. Good-bye now, and I wish you all a happy Christmas. Oh, I had almost forgotten the basket.

He went out to the dog-cart and returned in a moment carrying two baskets—one a tiny one in which Mrs. Donnellan had packed the eggs and griddle-cake on the occasion of his last visit. The other was a great brown hamper.

'This is a little present from Herbert to you all,' he said. 'We thought you might not have time to get in your Christmas provisions, with this good man laid up on your hands. Good-bye now. Don't thank me. I'm off.'

A few moments later the hamper was unpacked and the snowy kitchen table spread over with its contents. What riches, and what a merry Christmas they would have!—a huge ham, a piece of roasting beef, a bottle of wine, a plum pudding, mince pies, boxes of sweets, dried fruits, Christmas crackers, and sugar plums for the children.

Mrs. Donnellan sat down again and cried for joy. 'Musha, ye foolish woman!' cried Thady: 'is it crying you are, when you ought to be so happy?'

'And so I am, Thady dear,' she answered, wiping away her tears. 'Only I can't help crying. To think how good God has been to us through everything! Praised be His Holy Name! And may He pour down His blessings on Mr. Crawford and the little boy and his poor mother. Sure it will be the happiest Christmas ever we spent!'

And we may be pretty certain that it was.—'Freeman's Journal.'

The Catholic World

ENGLAND.—Death of a Priest

The death is announced, at the age of 59, of the Rev. James Kenny O'Doherty, rector, of St. Charles's, Rishton. He was for several years before his removal from the borough a representative of the Catholics on the Salford School Board.

New Churches in London

Two new churches were opened on Lady Day in London—St. Mary's, Moorfields, and the Guardian Angels, at Mile End. The Duke of Norfolk has presented a beautifully painted window to the Mile End Catholic church. It has been placed over the High Altar as a memorial to the late Lady Margaret Howard, who lived during the latter years of her life among the poor of the East-end.

A Costly Pulpit

Canon White, of the Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Brook Green, Hammersmith, has devoted the contents of the purse of gold—some £500—recently presented to him on the occasion of his sacerdotal jubilee, to defraying the cost of the new pulpit recently erected in his church. The pulpit is of carved stone, filled and inlaid with brass and enamel work.

A Venerable Priest

The 'Monitor,' San Francisco, of March 7, gives a portrait of Monsignor Nugent, of Liverpool, and a sketch of his life. In intimating that he would preach the sermon at the Lenten devotions of the Calvarian Society in St. Mary's Cathedral, San Francisco, on March 8, it said: "'Father Nugent," the title in love and respect that his friends of high and low standing give Monsignor Nugent, is known in all lands. In England his name is a household word. Although he has labored, as have few men, for more than half a century—for Father Nugent is in his eightieth year—his keen eyes are still undimmed, his voice is forceful and musical, and he seems to possess the wonderful vitality of the venerable Pontiff.'

The League of the Cross

Hardly a week is allowed to pass (writes a London correspondent) without the public being afforded some evidence of the earnest, increasing practical interest which is undoubtedly taken in the great Temperance cause by the Catholic Church in London. That admirable society known as the League of the Cross is, of course, largely responsible for the satisfactory state of affairs existing in this important respect to-day, and, indeed, there is no organisation more deserving the thanks and praise of Catholics than this one. Its efforts are unceasing and untiring, and in almost every parish it makes its presence felt, and meets with striking success wherever it goes. It has the goodwill of the Cardinal as well as all the other bishops and priests, and is backed up by a strong and ever increasing body of representative laity. Remarkable enthusiasm is shown at Catholic temperance gatherings, and, altogether, the outlook is rather bright, so far as the

Church's war against the excessive use of alcoholic liquor is concerned.

FRANCE.—Broken Faith

Monsignor Touchet, Bishop of Orleans, speaking at a meeting of prominent Catholics held to protest against the closing of the Congregational schools, is reported to have declared that the closing of the schools constituted a prevarication and a snare, since the Government had advised the members of the Congregations to ask for authorisation while intending all the time not to grant it to them. The Bishop is said to have added: 'As Bishop of Orleans, assuming the responsibility of my words, and being very glad if they involve me in a police court action, I proclaim aloud that the Government has broken faith.'

A Significant Demonstration

A significant demonstration in favor of the Little Sisters of the Assumption took place in Paris recently. Four of these—Mme. Jacobs, Mme. Lebaud, Mme. Thomas, and Mme. Pezard—were fined 300 francs at the Palais de Justice for continuing to act in their capacity as a Congregation without being registered. The defence of the Superior, whose name is Mother Jacobs, was as follows:—'I am a Little Assumptionist Sister, sick nurse of the poor. I have never believed, and I do not yet believe, that there can be a law forbidding one to do good. I nurse the poor without taking notice of anything else.' There were large crowds along the line of route as the Sisters drove back to their convent at Grenelle. Baroness Reille and the Marchioness de Solanges conveyed them in their motor cars, with Francois Coppee, who exclaimed 'Liberte!' at frequent intervals. Hundreds of women seized hold of bouquets from the flower stalls in the streets and threw them into or after the cars. Arrived at the convent, the Sisters flung open the doors, and the corridors and chapel were filled. Inside there were the strains of the 'Magnificat,' beautifully sung; outside M. Coppee spoke to an excited crowd singing the praises of the struggle of the Sisters for justice and mercy.

The Congregations

We have seen this week (writes a Paris correspondent under date April 2) the conclusion of the work commenced last week. After the teaching Congregations came the preaching Congregations, and for the latter, as for the former, it is death, pure and simple. The Chamber, in their case also, has refused to proceed with the discussion of the Bill embodying the proposals of authorisation. It is really an easy and expeditious way of outlawing a class of citizens who have become objectionable. The Carthusians, who had been scheduled apart as a manufacturing Congregation, formed the subject of a special debate, but despite the unanimous local opinion in the Grenoble district, the Carthusians were doomed. The famous Grande Chartreuse will have to close its doors, and the Carthusians will have to follow the other Congregations into exile. Parliament is now congratulating itself on the good work it has done—its task is over. But the task of the executive is only commencing. The law has now to be applied, and it looks as though we were going to have some trouble. A meeting of representatives of twenty of the doomed Congregations was held to consider the steps which should be taken in view of the vote of the Chamber, and to agree upon a common line of action. The Congregations represented at the meeting are said to have decided upon passive resistance. They will take no notice of orders to disperse, and will only be removed by force. No authoritative statement to this effect has, however, been made. The only official result of the meeting has been the publication of a document, in which the Congregations refute point by point the accusations against them.

ROME.—A Jubilee Gift

It is stated that the Pope, on the occasion of his Jubilee, promised a sum of money to every child born in Rome on March 3, and that 93 children have been the recipients of his liberality.

Proposed Hospital

It is intended to erect a British Catholic Hospital in Rome under the care of the nuns of the Little Company of Mary. The project has received the approval of the Pope, the Cardinal-Vicar, Cardinals Vaughan and Logue, and the Duke of Norfolk.

St. Gregory the Great

In April, 1904 (says the 'Catholic Times') thirteen hundred years will have passed away since the death of St. Gregory the Great, and already a committee has been formed in Rome to promote the celebration in accordance with a resolution passed by the last Congress of Christian Archaeology. The Catholics of this country will, no doubt, take a special interest in the event. 'It chanced,' says Ranke in his 'History of the Popes,' 'that certain Anglo-Saxons, being exposed for sale in the market place of Rome, attracted the attention of Pope Gregory the Great: he at once resolved that Christianity should be preached to the nation whence these beautiful captives had been taken. Never, perhaps, was resolution adopted by any Pope whence results more important ensued: together with the doctrines of Christianity, a veneration for Rome and the Holy See, such as had never before existed in any nation, found place amongst the Germanic Britons.' For the Anglo-Saxons Rome became what Byron in later times happily called it, the city of the soul. Those of them who could visit Rome as life was drawing to a close in order to pass their remaining days there looked forward to death almost with pleasure. So great was their devotion to the