

Intercolonial

A very pleasing ceremony took place on St. Patrick's Day at St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney, when the president of the Catholic Federation (Mr. P. S. Cleary) received from his Holiness the Pope the Cross of Leo XIII.—*Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice*. At the request of his Grace the Archbishop, his Excellency the Papal Delegate invested Mr. Cleary with the handsome cross of the Order.

On the mail steamer by which his Lordship Bishop Phelan came out from Home, were the Mother Provincial of the Brigidine Nuns and Mother Vincent, together with ten postulants for New South Wales and one for Victoria. A pathetic circumstance was the death of Mother Joseph after the vessel left Port Said. The deceased nun was for many years Rev. Mother of the Brigidine Convent, Ararat.

A Solemn Dirge and Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of the late Bishop Grimes were celebrated in St. Patrick's Church, Church Hill, Sydney, in the presence of a large congregation. In addition to his Excellency the Apostolic Delegate, there were present the Archbishop of Sydney and a large gathering of the clergy. The Archbishop of Sydney, taking as his text, 'It is appointed unto men to die, and after death Judgment,' preached an eloquent panegyric.

Among the familiar figures of Melbourne and suburbs is that of the Rev. Brother P. Nunan, the well-known collector of St. Augustine's Orphanage, Geelong (says the *Advertiser*). After fifty years of faithful service he has quietly retired from that activity, and the Rev. Brother J. N. Moore, who comes from a scholastic institution in Queensland, takes his place. St. Augustine's Orphanage is widely known as a model training school. Its band is famed far and wide in the Commonwealth, and the success of the school is equally well known. It teaches its boys farming, gardening, poultry raising, dairy work, tailoring, broom and boot making, and painting and carpentering. There are 250 boys in the institution, and these are often rescued from the worst surroundings and turned into admirable citizens.

His Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne delivered a fine patriotic speech at the St. Patrick's Night entertainment, in which the following salient passages occurred: 'I hold in my hand a small card which contains St. Patrick's Day greetings, and which I received yesterday or the day before. This card is small and simple, and yet it has set me thinking. I cannot do anything more appropriate to-night than to give you, very briefly, the reflections to which it has given rise. On top it contains a bunch of shamrocks; beneath, a harp wreathed with shamrocks; and in the middle, the old familiar salutation constantly heard in Ireland when a friend or neighbor enters an Irish home: 'God save ye all here,' to which the response is, 'God save you kindly.' The sender of the card has added, 'With these homely, hearty words of the old time prayer I greet you this Patrick's Day, knowing that you will answer, 'God save you kindly.' Now I pass on the salutation to you, and I say, 'God save ye all here,' and you will respond, 'God save you kindly.'

CAPITAL AND LABOR IN SPAIN.

Few people in this country, we suppose, have ever imagined that we have anything to learn from Spain in regard to the question of capital and labor (says the *Sacred Heart Review*). Mr. Joaquin Orus, a manufacturer of chocolate at Saragossa, in Spain, has drawn up rules for his employees as follow:—

The ordinary duration of work per day will be according to the months of the year; in January, February, September, October, November, and December it will be nine hours for men and seven for women. In March, April, May, June, July, and August, it will be ten hours for men and eight for women.

Every five hours of overtime will be taken as a day, and paid for as a day.

In weeks which have only five working days, the employees will work one hour more a day, to draw a full week's wages.

Overtime is not compulsory; and no employee need work it unless he wants the money.

Those who have been two years in the employ will have the following advantages: A sick workman will get his full wages for the three months; half-wages for the next three months; and quarter wages for six months after that. He will have medical and druggists' assistance free from the doctors and druggists employed by the firm. In case the sick employee is to receive the last Sacraments, all the employees of two years' standing will attend thereat with lighted candles. If he or she dies the employer will pay for a hearse of the second class, burial in consecrated ground, and the saying of a Mass for the deceased. The employees of two years' standing will attend the funeral and the Mass. Every employee who shall complete 30 years of uninterrupted service in the employ will have the right to cease work on a pension equal to half his wages, payable weekly till his death. On July 16, the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, patroness of the factory, Mass will be said, and there will be a general Communion. If it be a working day the employees will be paid without work for the day.

And this remarkable and most Christian code of rules concludes: 'This important date will be celebrated by a fete for the purpose of drawing closer the bonds which join together the employees with their employer.'

L'Action Sociale, to which we are indebted for this information, says very truly that these rules 'deserve to be read by all those who wish to know the influence of the social doctrines of Catholicism and to learn to apply them.' Nowhere are the relations between rich and poor more friendly than in Spain.

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