

THE CATHOLIC WORLD

GENERAL.

American Catholic soldiers often heard Mass along the Rhine, mingling with German congregations. They were not enemies before the Blessed Sacrament. In numerous instances within the occupied areas where the Americans held religious services on Christmas Day, Germans took part.

Apostolic work in China is not of recent origin. Four missions have been in existence for over 200 years: Macao (founded 1575), Fuchow (1696), Szechwan (1696), and Shensi (1696), 38 were founded in the course of the nineteenth century, and nine since the year 1900. The latest erection of a Vicariate is that of East Honan—in 1916.

A visitor to Constantinople before the war relates that the young Turk who showed him the Mosque of St. Sophia, formerly one of the most costly and beautiful churches in the world, declared that in the embellishments over what in the time of Constantine was the altar, there still appears the face of the Blessed Virgin; and that many other Christian figures are just whitewashed over, having been thus preserved; also that the great book carved in stone over a principal portico represents the Bible.

The Rector of the Catholic University of Louvain has taken the first opportunity, after the return of the faculty and students, to send through the press a letter, thanking the world for the generous help extended to the famous university in its great misfortunes. He says professors and students, commencing again their scholastic life, are anxious to tell all their friends how greatly they feel the help, which has been given, especially for the reconstruction of the famous library, for which volumes are pouring in from all parts, although the war has caused an irreparable loss.

On the eve of leaving the Presidency of Brazil, Dr. Braz, through the Minister of Foreign Affairs, sent a message to the Chamber of Deputies recommending that the delegate near the Holy See be raised to the rank of an ambassador, in gratefulness to the Holy Father for having chosen as the first Cardinal of Latin-America a Brazilian priest, "an act," says President Braz, "without political significance, but of great moral value to the people of Brazil, Catholic nearly in totality." And the Brazilian review, *Ave Maria*, makes the pointed remark that, had the Mexican Government taken the above utterance into account, Mexico, one of the most important first-born daughters of the Church in the New World, would have enjoyed the honor bestowed upon Brazil.

The project lately started in Glasgow to organise a pilgrimage to Lough Derg is making, as might be expected, rapid progress. At a meeting held in St. Mary's Hall, Glasgow, no fewer than twelve of the Catholic congregations in Glasgow were represented, the latest to join being St. Mungo's, St. Margaret's, St. Michael's, and the Sacred Heart. The committee wisely decided to start a Pilgrimage Fund so that a modest payment made periodically meanwhile will provide the necessary wherewithal for travelling expenses when the Pilgrimage starts. The committee is getting in touch with Canon Keown, the Prior of Lough Derg, with regard to the Glasgow project. Glasgow pilgrims have hitherto been numbered by hundreds, if not by thousands every year, and consequently an organised pilgrimage cannot fail to prove useful and extend the advantages of the enterprise.

English exchanges of recent date chronicle the death, at the age of 83, of Sister Mary Dominic, of the Franciscan Convent, Taunton; and the Rev. Henry Collins, O. Cist., St. Bernard's Monastery, Leicestershire, who was 90 years old (says the *Ave Maria*). The former was a daughter of Mr Alfred Luck, a convert to the Church, whose six children all consecrated them-

selves to the service of God; and he himself, we believe, was about to be elevated to the priesthood when his death occurred. One of the two sons who entered the Benedictine Order became Bishop of Auckland, New Zealand. Father Collins was a convert and formerly a minister of the Church of England. He joined the Cistercians soon after his conversion. He was a graduate of Durham University, and the author and translator of several works, the best known of which, perhaps, is *The Spirit and Mission of the Cistercian Order*. He also wrote a number of popular hymns, some of which are in general use among Anglicans of all branches.

The Procurator of the missions of the Assumptionists in the Orient is Rev. Victor Bossu. He writes from Paris, regarding the desperate condition of the distressed missionaries in the East. "It was hoped that reconstruction could soon begin there, under the more favorable conditions brought about by the world peace, and at the request of the Government the Superior of the Assumptionists with two priests and three nuns set out from Marseilles for Constantinople for the purpose of infusing new life into the expiring works of the apostolate. In a very material, as well as a spiritual, manner were they to do this, for they took with them large quantities of vegetables and other foodstuffs, for the necessities of life had almost disappeared from Constantinople, and the priests were starving. Happy was the little company on leaving France, because they were about to resume their missionary activity and to bring much-needed assistance to their fellow-Oblates. But they never reached their destination. In the Straits of Messina their steamer struck a floating mine and sank in a few minutes—in four minutes, according to newspaper reports."

WEDDING BELLS

OLIVER—LEVEY.

A very pretty wedding was celebrated in the Catholic Church, Waipukurau, on April 7, the contracting parties being Mr. Walter Oliver, proprietor of the Tavistock Hotel, Waipukurau, and Miss M. M. Levey, ninth daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Levey, of Petone. As both the bride and bridegroom are very popular, the wedding ceremony was largely attended. The bride was given away by her father, and was the eighth daughter that he has given away at the altar. It is an interesting fact (writes an esteemed correspondent) that there were 13 girls in the Levey family, two of whom died young. Five sons-in-law are converts to the faith. Mr. and Mrs. Levey (as well they might be) are very proud of their family.

CHILDREN OF MARY, AUCKLAND.

A most impressive ceremony was conducted on Easter Sunday evening at Vespers at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Auckland, when, immediately after the sermon, 11 young ladies were consecrated as members of the Children of Mary Sodality and three were initiated as aspirants. All the members of the sodality were present in regalia, and the sight and solemnity of the consecration were such as to edify the crowded congregation.

The members of the St. Patrick's Sodality of the Children of Mary, Auckland, gathered in the school-room after Vespers last Sunday evening (May 4) for the purpose of making a presentation to one of its members (Miss E. Roach) on the occasion of her approaching marriage. Father O'Byrne (director of the sodality) made the presentation, consisting of a beautiful oak-framed picture of the "Madonna and Child," and after a pleasant little speech, concluded by wishing Miss Roach every happiness and prosperity in her new sphere. The recipient suitably responded.

Consulting Rooms:
Opp Masonic Hotel,
Napier

H. M. BENNETT F.R.C.S. (LOND.)
CONSULTING OPTICIAN

Visits
Hastings Tuesdays
At Union Bank Chambers