

A USEFUL LARGER CATECHISM

A valuable service to catechesis has been done by the Very Rev. Canon Doyle (parish priest of Ferns, in the diocese of that name), in making available for English-speaking readers a translation and adaptation of Cardinal Goossens' *Larger Catechism of Christian Doctrine for Advanced Classes* in schools. Canon Doyle of Ferns is known as one of the most advanced and successful administrators in that ancient episcopal See, and his long and intimate acquaintance with catechetical works and catechetical methods fitted him in a peculiar way to select with ripe judgment a work best suited for the classes for which he here caters, and to alter and adapt it as to render it both suitable and attractive to children in the upper forms of schools in English-speaking lands. The work of translation and of adaptation has been most excellently done, and the result is a book which is a most valuable and timely addition to our catechetical literature. The book is, in fact, about the most compact theological and moral treatise we have seen, and is not alone useful for the classes for which it is more directly intended, but also for catechetical instructors, our secondary schools and colleges, and for the fairly educated Catholic laity. The work consists of 25 chapters, which give, in the form of question and answer, a really excellent epitome of Catholic dogma and morals. One feature of the work, which is largely due to the practised judgment of Canon Doyle, is the brief, pithy, and accurate manner in which doctrinal facts and arguments are generally nut-shelled into one-sentence answers. And these are generally couched in the form in which the pupil is most apt to understand them readily and to retain them strongly in his memory. This *Larger Catechism* has the warm approval of the Bishop of Auckland, who commends it to all interested in the training of youth. (From the publishers, Browne and Nolan,

Ltd., Nassau street, Dublin, and through all Catholic booksellers; demy 8vo., 172 pages; 6d net.)

He Had No Fear of Home Rule

Sir N. T. Everard, Bart., speaking at a recent meeting of the Meath County Council, said that he had never since he first entered public life in that county, 45 years ago, seen the slightest symptoms of intolerance among his Catholic fellow-countrymen, and he was not merely content to say that there, but he had when asked his opinions by one of the Nationalist members sent him precisely that information which he had now given there with regard to the state of toleration in Meath. Reference has been made to the 'bogey' which has been set up. Well, now, it may be a bogey, but these are very critical times, and you know as well as I do the uses that were made of the most trifling circumstances, and I believe myself that these gentlemen who in the North are suffering from what is called Ulsteria are terribly in earnest. They believe all this. Well, personally I don't like to see you paying too much attention to this bogey, but the fact is it is having an effect in England. There is no doubt about it. In fact, you may have noticed Mr. Birrell's speech—only the last speech he delivered—in which he said if it was not for this Ulsteria Home Rule would be settled in a week. Very well, you know the whole foundation of this Ulsteria is the religious question. I have no fear under Home Rule. It is not troubling me in that way. I am a great deal more afraid of the Belfast Radicals under Home Rule than I am of his Holiness the Pope. That is my honest opinion. I think you would have far more Socialistic legislation initiated by the Radicals of the North than we are likely to have denominational legislation by, we will say, the influence of the Catholic Church.

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