

that book with regard to the most frightful vices that seem to grow with a growth irresistible where there is no religion to place its foot upon that vile monster—the passion of man. Governor Brown, addressing not long ago the National Teachers' Convention in St. Louis, said:—"It is a very customary declaration to pronounce that education is the great safeguard of republics against the decay of virtue and the reign of immorality, yet the fact can scarcely bear out the proposition. The highest civilizations, both ancient and modern, have sometimes been the most flagitious. Now-a-days, certainly, your prime rascals have been educated rascals." In order that their good friends might not imagine that he was against enlightenment—for he wished to open the door as wide as possible—in order that he might not be misunderstood—he was going to bring forward an argument to show that he was not against instruction, when it was directed by religion. But he would no more think of imparting mere secular instruction without religion, than he would place a minie rifle in the hands of a boy who did not know how to use it, and trust himself in his presence. It was not possible for a mere secular instruction, in what was called the three R's, to fit persons to fight the great battle with the passions of man; but it was possible with the combination of instruction with religion to fit them for that battle, and to prove this he would bring forward a few figures—only a few, for he would not go into statistics, which nobody ever read. In France the men and women both were educated—the men in the public schools, and without religion, where the priests have not been allowed to bring in their influence; and the women are educated principally under the influence of religious persons, and religion is brought into their schools. If they compared the record of crime committed by men and women they would find very curious results. The men were far more criminal than the women, and what was most striking and curious was that they were more depraved in proportion as they were more highly educated without religion, while the women, the more highly they were educated with religion, became the more pure and holy. These returns were made up for eighteen years, from the year 1829 to 1846, and criminals were divided into three classes—persons who were called ignorant—that is, who could neither read nor write; the instructed formed the second class—that is, those who could read and write more or less well; and the third class, the better instructed, who had received a higher education than the primary education. This record shows that amongst the ignorant, who could neither read nor write, there were before the courts, out of every 100,000, not less than 751 persons. Of the instructed, in the second place, out of every 100,000, there were more before the courts—there were 942; and of the better instructed, out of every 100,000 there were 1289 before the courts. So they saw that this instruction without religion was putting dangerous weapons into the hands of men without teaching them how to use them, and resulted in their doing damage to themselves and others; and if we could only find out how much evil they did, we should find out the consequence of keeping God's influence and power out of the minds and hearts of the young. Now, for the women under religious instruction, and under the influence of the pure lives and holy teaching of women who dedicate themselves to the service of Jesus Christ. Among the ignorant, out of every 100,000, instead of 751 there were only 193 brought before the courts; of the slightly instructed, instead of 942 there were only 152 out of every 100,000 brought before the courts; and out of the better instructed, out of every 100,000, instead of 1289, there were only 66 brought before the courts. So they found that in proportion as they received instruction combined with the teachings of holy religion they had been pure and holy, while the more they received mere secular instruction so they became more and more depraved. He did not speak against secular instruction, but he said, "Bring in more religion. If your tea is not sweet enough, put more sugar into it."

THE WAR AGAINST THE CHURCH.

THREE eminent men in different spheres of life have uttered their belief that Europe is on the eve of a great religious conflict, which bids fair to outstrip any that the world has yet seen. Mr. DISRAELI, Archbishop MANNING, and Dr. CUMMING, have each predicted that a terrible struggle will take place ere long, and religion will be the cause. To any observer of the movements of European Governments, or the aims of the vast organisation in existence on the Continent of Europe as elsewhere, which has been anathematised by the Head of the Church, the prediction will not sound strange. On the contrary, the stand taken by the Civil Governments within the last few years against the Catholic Church, their open avowals of their intention to crush her, and the means taken to carry out their designs, have portended a great conflict for religious freedom. The temporary prostration of one of the most ancient and Catholic countries, has been taken advantage of by the enemies of the Church for the accomplishment of their designs, and from all quarters she has been attacked. It is not untrue to say that the Catholic Church is now being persecuted as fiercely and as universally as at any previous period of her existence. Not a solitary country to which we can look is there in which she is not attacked in some form or other. Her authority is denied, and attempts are unceasingly made to rob her of her privileges, to weaken her influence, to sap her foundation. Her ministers are imprisoned, exiled, and robbed of the means to obtain the necessities of life; and her churches and

religious institutions are ruthlessly plundered. And all these things are applauded, nay considered lawful and praiseworthy by men even in our own community, who profess to hold liberal opinions, and who would indignantly repudiate the accusation of bigotry and injustice. The voice of the whole Catholic world has been raised in defence of the rights and privileges of the Church, and Governments have taken no heed thereof, but continue to plunder, despoil, and persecute her in the name of "law!" A powerful effort—probably the most powerful that has ever been made—will ere long be made by the united enemies of the Church against her; signs of its approach are visible, but it will be as futile as all others have been. The great struggle between Church and State will, as Mr DISRAELI says: "shake many thrones of Europe, and will shortly be raging on the Continent like a moaning wind." It will be a terrible struggle, but one from which the Church will come forth with new vitality and vigor.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN.

THE Rev. T. Crowley has been appointed assistant priest at Lawrence, the Rev. P. D. Moore, assistant priest at Queenstown, and the Rev. M. Walsh and the Rev. P. O'Leary to the Mission of Dunedin.

On the Feast of All Saints there was High Mass in St. Joseph's Pro-Cathedral, Most Rev. Dr. Moran was celebrant, assisted by Revs. P. O'Leary, Deacon; M. Walsh, Sub-deacon; T. Crowley, assistant priest; and Rev. P. D. Moore, Master of the Ceremonies. The sermon was preached by Rev. T. Crowley, who has been since appointed to the Lawrence Mission.

On the following day—the commemorative of All Saints—there was office of the Dead and Solemn Mass in St. Joseph's. The Bishop was celebrant, assisted by all the clergymen above named, and the Rev. Father Foran.

On Feast of All Saint, the choir as usual was under the direction of the organist, Mr Sykes, and gave the *Kyrie, Gloria, Credo* and other parts of the Mass generally sung by choir, in excellent style. It is needless to eulogise the playing of the organ, every one who knows Mr Sykes is aware of his mastery over that instrument.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A FIRE resulting in the destruction of a four-roomed cottage, belonging to Mr Haulon, of Cumberland street, took place on Wednesday night, close on to midnight. The accident appears to have been caused by a safety lamp which had been left burning in the bedroom, and so quickly did the flames spread that it was with difficulty that the family could be rescued before the destruction of the premises. The Fire Brigade with their usual promptitude shortly arrived on the spot, and by their exertions prevented the spread of the flames to the adjacent cottages. The building was insured for £130 in the National Insurance Company.

As the May Queen, on board of which are two clergymen for the Diocese of Dunedin, is now 91 days out from her date of sailing, her arrival may be looked for at any hour. We are also glad to hear that our venerated and indefatigable Vicar-General, Father Coleman, may be confidently expected during the middle of next month. We have been informed that it is intended to celebrate his return by inviting him to a dinner, to be followed by a musical entertainment. As the matter is but still in embryo, we are not yet in a position to give particulars, but from the high esteem in which Father Coleman is held by all classes, and in appreciation of his indefatigable and untiring exertions for the progress and welfare of the diocese, we rest satisfied that his reception will be one worthy of himself, and worthy of the flock for which he has so ardently and strenuously labored.

GEORGE AMOS, an engine-driver in the employment of the Provincial Government, was charged at the District Court on Tuesday, with negligently placing some trucks on the line at Hill Side, Caversham, on the 27th ult., thereby endangering the lives of passengers. Prisoner was defended by Mr Barton; Mr Stout prosecuting on the part of the Government. Evidence of a very lengthy character was heard, and the highest testimony as to stendiness of the prisoner was given, he having been an engine-driver of twenty years' experience. It having been proved in evidence that the train on which accused was, had been despatched in the face of an incoming train, and that no guard accompanied it, his worship held there had been no culpability on the part of accused, and dismissed the charge.

We have to acknowledge the receipt from Mr Henry Wise, of a pamphlet entitled "The Coming Crisis," being a sketch of the financial and political condition of New Zealand, with the causes and results of that condition. Its author is Mr W. L. Rees, a barrister of Victoria and New Zealand. Mr Rees certainly takes a somewhat gloomy view of the future of New Zealand, and attributes all its ills to the arch-traitor Julius Vogel. Indeed the whole work is occupied in denunciations of the Premier, and in revilings of the Legislature. Of the latter he says: "In other colonies the Houses of Parliament have been growing in ability, in uprightness and popular favor. In New Zealand, however, this is not the case; and although we started with the best of all Colonial Assemblies, we have sunk in twenty years to the very lowest depth. There is not now throughout all the Empire a Parliament so venal, so selfish, or so unfit to govern a people, and perhaps there never was." This is strong language, but those who do not admire Julius Vogel, and those who possess no admiration for our legislators, should purchase Mr Rees' pamphlet, for he certainly agrees with them.