

plenty and prosperity for all is a little wisdom, forethought, and disinterestedness on the part of our legislators. But so long as one part of the Colony is endeavoring to over-reach another, one part laboring to plunder another of its vested rights, nothing but heartburning, determined resistance and consequent insecurity and stagnation can be the consequence.

INCONSISTENCY.

If we may accept a recent telegram as true, the French Government contemplates granting an amnesty to the convicted members of the Commune, and, moreover, proposes to liberate the individuals pardoned in New Caledonia, the scene of their exile, whence they would probably make their way to the neighboring continent of Australia. At this prospect the colonists are alarmed, so much so, it would appear, that they intend to protest against the promised liberation.

To such a step, however, the English Press has long been favorable. Journals which could find no language too hard for use towards the Fenian prisoners, were full of humane and considerate expressions when dealing with the penalties France imposed upon her offending citizens; although the guilt of these latter surpassed that of the former immeasurably, and their power to work mischief, if released, would have been out of all comparison with that possessed by the Fenians under like circumstances. For surely no man in his senses could think of comparing anything that took place in the Fenian rising to the fiendish doings that characterised the outbreak of the Commune in Paris, while to increase by the number of thirteen the many thousands who declaim in America against the strong and well-established rule of England, would be quite another thing from restoring to the volcanic and dangerous element that underlies Parisian society a great portion of its force and spirit.

But, however it be, the English Press, that could not find a word to advance in favor of the Fenians, went to the verge of sentimentality when treating of the Communists, and certain slight indications lead us to imagine that sundry and various of our neighbors of the Australian colonies would have shared in this commiseration, had not personal motives intervened and pointed out to them that probably the Communist body, snugly ensconced in the heart of Sydney or Melbourne, would not be as pleasant an object for the other residents in these cities to contemplate as it would be for the citizens of London to behold from a safe distance. Whether such doubts have any just foundations we cannot positively say, but it appears to us that, in any case, those colonists who propose to object against the measure said to be entertained by the French Government, are somewhat inconsistent.

The Commune did but carry out the doctrines of the Revolution in their perfection. If they murdered, their victims were only priests, or men who sympathised with such. If they devastated, palaces and the monuments of a settled government were the objects against which their rage was principally directed. Priests and governments are the objects which the revolution is bent upon overthrowing, and whether bloodshed or fire be employed in the endeavor or not, it does not much signify; the difference is in degree only and by no means in kind.

Now the Government of Victoria has lately extended a hand of encouragement to a member of a family remarkable only in Europe for being that of a leading revolutionist, and, so far as we have been able to gather, the gentleman to whom we allude, Mr. RICCIOTTI GARIBALDI, has been patronised by the Government in question solely because of his connection with such a family. We cannot recollect that Mr. GARIBALDI has in any way so distinguished himself as to have deserved to be placed in a Government situation, he being a stranger to the colonies, in preference to many worthy colonists of standing to whom such a post would have been a boon, for it is well known that there are numerous applicants for any vacancy that may occur in Victoria. It is true that he served for a time in the French war, but, although we read with interest the various details of that great event, we fail to recollect that the name of RICCIOTTI GARIBALDI was then mentioned as connected with any very striking success or undertaking, and, if it had been so, this would hardly have recommended him for promotion in a country where the German nation, to which he was opposed, is sufficiently represented to require that it should be recognised with respect, at least,

and where, consequently, all that he could rationally expect would be the admiration generously awarded to his prowess, but certainly not its recompense. However, prowess there appears to have been none, and consequently, all things considered, we are thrown back upon the conclusion that it was his father's fame alone which entitled him to the patronage of the Victorian Government: what that fame is the whole world knows.

But let our readers judge of the consistency of the policy, that repels the Communist while it welcomes the Garibaldian.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

MR. MURRAY, our Canvasser and Collector, intends visiting Oamaru and neighborhood in about a fortnight.

WE perceive that strenuous efforts are being made by the Rev. Father Kirk for the improvement of the Catholic schools at Wanganui. Mrs. Cordoza, the lady who has hitherto conducted these schools with much ability and success, will shortly be reinforced by a gentleman who is a first-class teacher, and a lady assistant of high reputation. At a meeting of the parishioners of St. Mary's held lately for the furtherance of the object in question, a strong protest was entered against the injustice of the Educational Board, and a fixed determination expressed of maintaining Catholic schools notwithstanding all difficulties. A subscription list was then opened, and the best proofs given of the sincerity of the professions made by the liberality of the amount subscribed.

THE 'Wanganui Chronicle' of a late date, remarking on the proposed grant of £500 to the Catholic schools at Wellington, says:—"Disgusted at the wrangling and the rancorous opposition to which Mr. Bunny's suggestions gave rise, Dr. Redwood declined, on behalf of the denomination of which he is the Head, to accept a gift which could only be obtained 'grudgingly or of necessity.' Herein, we doubt not, his Lordship has the great majority of Roman Catholics with him; but we cannot suppose that either he or they will regard this decision as in any way affecting their right to a share of that State aid which is to be participated in by all other religious bodies. Roman Catholics may feel that a sum of £500 is not worth quarrelling about; but when it comes to a question of permanently sacrificing their rights in this matter, they will doubtless begin to feel that peace, great a blessing as it is, may be bought too dearly, and that this is an instance in point."

WE understand that the Most Rev. the Lord Bishop of Dunedin has been appointed administrator of the diocese of Auckland, during the vacancy of this See.

ON Monday evening last a meeting was convened by His Worship the Mayor, at the Head Quarters Drill-shed, for the purpose of considering the changes which are now being carried out in the Government of the Colony. About twelve hundred persons attended. The proceedings were orderly and decidedly anti-centralistic.

A NUMBER of the lads who serve at the Altar have been busily engaged for the last week or two in making a collection to provide a new carpet for the sanctuary, that which at present covers it having become shabby from long use, and we believe their quest has been attended with considerable success. In the Altar Society, however, which is now established, means will be found of furnishing all such requisites in a more satisfactory manner. This Association has a two-fold object, for, besides that alluded to, by being undertaken for the propagation of the faith, it is also intended that it shall assist the missions of the Church in foreign countries by alms and prayers, and those persons who join it will have the advantage of many indulgences granted by the sovereign Pontiffs, Pius VII., Leo XII., Pius VIII., Gregory XVI., and his Holiness the present Pope.

WE take the following from the 'Wakatip Mail':—"A fatal accident occurred on Monday night or Tuesday morning to a child between five and six years of age, the son of Mr. J. S. Aldred of this town. It appears that deceased and two other lads named Richards and Shore—the one about five and the other about eight years old—went out on the eastern hill of the Shotover Gorge on Monday afternoon. The latter two returned about five o'clock, but said nothing about their other companion until pressed later in the evening, when Richards confessed that deceased had fallen over the cliff opposite Jack's Hotel, Shotover Gorge. A great number of townspeople then went out with lanterns, but their efforts were unavailing. On Tuesday morning about eight o'clock, however, indications were noticed on the range above by deceased's brother who traced them down to where the body was found among the ferns opposite Jack's hotel. The body was still warm as if life had only quite recently departed, and it is supposed that the little fellow had probably fallen almost unhurt on one of the grassy ledges of rock during the earlier portion of the night, where he had perhaps cried himself to sleep, and on being awakened with the cold had wandered in darkness over the fatal edge. The whole depth he fell must have been 500 feet, but it was no doubt the last fall (nearly 100 feet) which sealed his fate. The aid of Dr. Jackson was called, but the child's neck was broken and of course life was extinct. According to report great blame is attachable to the lad Shore for concealing the accident, as it is most likely that had the boy been extricated some five hours earlier his life might have been saved. Mr. Beetham, coroner, held an inquest on the body at the Supreme Court Hotel, when a verdict of accidental death was returned.

A SERIES of pen and ink sketches of the various preachers, who have for some time engaged the attention of congregations in Dunedin, and which appeared under the heading of "Pulpit Pictures," by Didymus, in our contemporary the 'Saturday Advertiser' has been issued in a neat volume, illustrated by portraits of the gentlemen treated of. This work