

officer, the son of an Anglican clergyman and himself a Protestant, from the self-denying and devoted conduct pursued by a certain Catholic priest during the Indian mutiny; and the ardour of a volunteer follower of GARIBALDI was, to our knowledge, damped considerably towards that "hero," by the tender care given to the wounds of an enemy of her Order by a Sister of Mercy. But to soften the world in general, or even to obtain for any particular body immunity, not to say reverence, the most exalted surrender of all that is ordinarily considered to make life so much as endurable appears to be impotent.

A glance at the religious orders is sufficient to show any one of understanding, how completely they have resigned the pursuit of self-interest, and how fully prepared they are to encounter hardship, sickness, or death, in the fulfilment of their voluntarily undertaken duties. Yet it is very far from being conceded to them generally, that they are engaged in the service of God. On the contrary, they are commonly overwhelmed with abuse, and the fact of having persecuted them, has been sufficient to gain for the Governments of VICTOR EMMANUEL and BISMARCK the sympathies of multitudes professing themselves to be biased by philanthropy.

So it is now, and so it has been for ages. Far from their devotion having availed generally to gain for them adherents, or to convince an erring world of the excellence of their cause, it has not sufficed to shield them from the worst of ill-usage and the most scandalous abuse. Examples of this may easily be found, but let us be content to seek one in the history of the Society of JESUS, perhaps the most calumniated of all the Orders in the Church, and from whose very title, sacred though it be in its origin, an adjective expressive of evil has been unscrupulously framed.

Who has not heard of the contest of Jesuit and Jansenist, a necessary conflict that followed on the learning of the one being enlisted to subdue the heresy of the other? Between these two adversaries a trial of constancy was called for; one not, indeed, proposed by man, but elected of God, and which, in the terrible plague that broke out at Marseilles towards the beginning of the last century, was destined to prove the stability of the contending parties. The Jansenists fled before the ordeal, but the Jesuits poured into the infected town, and spent themselves in attendance upon the stricken people, leaving seven of their number dead there of the pestilence, and martyrs to their holy cause.

Yet Jansenism and its kindred rebellion are to-day applauded by many, who stigmatise the principles from which these Jesuits derived their strength of mind.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

THE Catechonian sports on Monday last were, as usual, highly successful. The athletic contests were well maintained, and the fineness of the weather was favourable to a good attendance of spectators.

AMONGST the banners hung in the world-famed sanctuary of our Lady of Lourdes to represent Catholic nations and communities in all parts of the earth, is now to be seen one commemorative of Dunedin. It was forwarded there through the kindness of a religious attached to an Irish convent, who, while attending to the spiritual interests of her own community, remembered also those of this distant mission.

WE have received from Mr. Bailliere, of Melbourne, publisher, a lecture on "Diagnosis," delivered by Dr. Beaney to the students of the Melbourne Hospital. The matter is technical and of interest to the medical profession. The publication does credit to the house which has issued it.

THE non-Catholic press of Australia has been unanimous in reviewing, with extreme favour, the career of the late Archbishop of Sydney, and in regretting his decease. Even such bigoted newspapers as the Sydney *Morning Herald* and the Melbourne *Argus* have been most laudatory. We must, however, class with the curiosities of journalistic productions the following sentences in the *Argus* referring to the subject in question—"He was a Churchman of the Carlo Borromeo type. He was a Christian first, and a Catholic afterwards. He was a gentleman in the truest sense of the word before he was a priest, and he never ceased to be both Christian and gentleman during his long and exemplary life." The writer, we should say, stumbled accidentally across some details of the life of St. Charles, alone of all Catholic saints, and hence selects him as his model *par excellence*, not knowing the points of similarity that are evident in the characters of all those who have attained to heroic sanctity. Christian and Catholic, we take it, are synonymous terms, and the true priest will be found, also, the true gentleman; since the charity attendant on the former calling faithfully adhered to, will, of necessity, produce the gentleness and consideration for the feelings, as well as the needs, faults, and failings of others that are the distinguishing traits in the latter character.

WE clip the following from the *Lyttelton Times* of the 3rd inst. A large audience assembled last evening in the Catholic Schoolroom, Barbadoes-street, where a very enjoyable entertainment was presented. The first part consisted of a vocal and instrumental concert, in which Madame and Miss Winter, with Mr. Melchor Winter, took the leading part, and they were ably assisted by Mrs. J. M. Thompson and Mr. Schwartz. The second portion of the entertainment was undertaken

by the members of the Garrick Amateur Dramatic Society, who presented "Charles II," a comedy in two acts, which is after the manner of "La Jeunesse de Henri V" and is one of the numerous adaptations of John Howard Payne. The parts were allotted as follows:—King Charles, Mr. F. C. Phipps; Earl of Rochester, Mr. R. F. Houllihan; Edward, the page, Mr. T. J. Duffy; Captain Copp, Mr. Joseph Barrett; Lady Clara, Mrs. F. C. Phipps; and Mary, Mrs. Hooper. The piece is one that is well adapted for representation before a general audience, as it abounds in situations, and affords ample scope for the introduction of varied scenery, and for the display of rich dresses. The Dramatic Club is now in possession of a large stock of properties; and the capital little stage in the schoolroom affords them ample facility for the introduction of plays of every description. The various parts last evening were capitally rendered, and the audience testified their appreciation by frequent and hearty applause. The proceeds are to be applied for the benefit of the Catholic schools.

HERE is another emanation from the goose-quill of that adult (?) who writes "Passing Notes" in the *Otago Witness*:—"The TABLET is distressed about some statement made in a Scotch paper, to the effect that the Irish have a larger proportion of criminals than the Scotch, and gives statistics to show that Irish steal less than Scotch. well, I haven't the slightest doubt the TABLET is right, but may not this arise from the fact, that the Irish can't get anything to steal?" (! !).

OWING to the accident which occurred to the San Francisco mail-boat, and her consequently late arrival at Auckland, we have been behind-hand in the reception of our Catholic exchanges. This is to be regretted, as the Europeans telegrams, so far as all things Catholic are concerned, are quite as unreliable as the Protestant press, and we are dependent for true information on the incoming mails.

THE newest thing in journalism is a list of heiresses given in the American papers. The appearances, qualifications, and, above all, the expectations of the young ladies are dilated on in a manner that, were the world not affirmed to be progressive, we should venture to call impertinent.

A LIVELY scene was witnessed in Stafford-street on Wednesday afternoon last, when numerous sons of the Flowery Land, who inhabit these quarters, were setting out to attend a compatriot's funeral. Jollity seemed to be as much the order of the day amongst the presumed mourners, as if some merry-making were on the tapis.

If the version given of the affair by the 'Otago Guardian' be just, the Hon. Donald Reid has, in his courteous interview with Mr. Proudfoot, supplied an additional proof of the insufficiency of even Ministerial soap to wash the blackamoor white. "I'll shove this roll of papers down your throat," said the Honorable the Minister of the Crown. * * * "You're a blackguard to talk to me in that way," said the Honourable the Minister of the Crown. Thus reports our contemporary. Verily some exceedingly shady things are said and done, even by official personages, in this Empire on which it is boasted that the sun never goes down.

ON the festival of the patron of Ireland, the panegyric of that great Apostle was preached in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne, by the Rev. W. Kelly, S.J., whose sermons and lectures were lately heard with so much interest and edification in Dunedin.

THE *Illustrated New Zealand Herald* for April is quite up to the mark. "Surf-boats at Timaru," and "The ship Grandee in collision with an iceberg," are especially interesting.

SIGNOR GIAMMONA, whose finished performance on the flute so delighted the lovers of that instrument during the tour of the De Murska Troupe in New Zealand, is at present in Melbourne. He recently sang in the Catholic Cathedral there a *Qui Tollis* composed by him, and which is highly spoken of.

THE Dunedin Catholic Young Men's Society held a special meeting in St. Joseph's schoolroom on Wednesday evening last, when there was a large attendance of members. The principal business of the evening was the establishment of debating and improvement classes; and it was decided to have a debate on given subjects in each month. Improvement classes were also formed, and a large number of members promised to attend them. It is requested that members will attend next Wednesday evening at 7.30 sharp, when the subject for the first debate, to be held at the first meeting in June, will be given out.

MR. L. W. BUSCH, Mayor of Naseby, has been appointed a Justice of the Peace.

CONSIDERABLE dissatisfaction has been expressed at a Dunedin medical man's having been employed to visit the small-pox patients at the Quarantine station. Surely the day is approaching when infectious disease will be counted a crime, and Christian charity seems rapidly giving way to "progress." Common shame should be sufficient to quell such murmurs.

THE following gentlemen have been appointed as a committee to make collections in aid of the South Dunedin Church Building Fund—Messrs. N. Moloney, W. Meade, P. Duodon, T. Heffernan, W. Badgar, P. Carey, P. Keligher, M. Fleming.

THE Marquis of Salisbury and Mr. Farjeon have recognized the merit of the writing machine, but we should like to have Mr. Carlyle's opinion of the newly-invented talking machine. We hear that after thirty years, which the historian of the Great Frederic will probably think might have been better employed, a clever gentleman has succeeded in producing an apparatus consisting of a table with pedals, an organ bellows, and a keyboard. In the centre is an elaborate arrangement, representing the human lungs, larynx, glottis, and tongue. At the conclusion of the exhibition, in the Grand Hotel at Paris, it spoke a "piece" as follows:—"I was born in America. I can speak all languages, and am very pleased to see you. I thank you for your visit." There is already too much talk in the world, but yet this machine might be made useful. It would for instance, be invaluable at railway stations, where porters roar out the name of the place in tones equally loud and unintelligible. A good talking-machine would be a vast improvement on the inarticulate porter.—'Iron.'