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Current Topics

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

WANTED:
A
SCHEME.

THE synods and assemblies and so forth of our separated brethren are at one in their condemnation of the godless system of public instruction. But they are at sixes and sevens when it comes to a question of finding

the remedy for its rank and evil-smelling godlessness. They have been for a long time searching Jerusalem with lamps for 'a scheme which shall meet with the general approval' of the 'Christian' (that is Protestant) Churches, but thus far the search has been as fruitless as that for the philosopher's stone. The situation has its humorous as well as its serious side. To our mind one of the worst features of the deliberations of those non-Catholic assemblies upon the question of religious instruction in the State schools is their serene and thorough-paced and selfish ignoring of Catholic rights, the Catholic conscience, and the Catholic attitude in the matter. A droll feature in the crusade is alluded to in the synodal address of the Bishop of Nelson, who is evidently calmly unconscious of the humour of the situation: It is the elaborate plans of campaign drawn up by the Anglican synods of Auckland and Waiapu, and added to by the speaker, and bundled up and ticketed and pigeon-holed and ready for that apparently far-off day when the non-Catholic denominations in the Colony shall at last have agreed upon a scheme which is to extract the poison out of the godless system of State instruction. There is one palpable remedy which seems to have quite escaped the notice of synods and assemblies and councils alike: to go and do as the Catholic body has done—to build and equip and maintain their own schools and teach the rising generation, according to their own idea, how to live and how to die. This is what Catholics have been doing for over a quarter of a century in New Zealand, while the synods have been a-synoding and the assemblies assembling and the councils a-councillng, and the net result of all their deliberations has been words, words, words—*vox et prateria nihil*. Let the heavily-endowed Anglican and Presbyterian bodies for just two years make one-half of the relative sacrifice that their far poorer and less numerous Catholic fellow-colonists have done for so long, and the education difficulty will speedily solve itself.

PLAIN
ENGLISH.

MEANTIME we offer for their comfort the following refreshing sample of the philosophy of plain speaking. It is from the columns of a non-Catholic paper, the *Newcastle Herald* (N.S.W.). Referring editorially to a statement of Cardinal Moran's in point, it goes on to say:—

'There is a common lament among Protestant denominations that a religious indifference has sprung up in their ranks. This is the result of the present secular system of education; there is indifference at school, and the indifference is continued into manhood or womanhood. Who will deny the truth of Cardinal Moran's statement, proved as it is by ten thousand evidences everywhere we turn? "Fear God and honour the king" was the old Conservative maxim, but the average Protestant youth fear no one in the sense that is desired, and honour neither their parents, their Queen, nor their country. Of course the youth will deny it, but they are not the best judges; the best are their elders, who have seen the terrible sliding down that has distinguished the moral side since first the Education Act came into force. If children are not to be taught to fear God in childhood, how on earth are they to be taught when men and women? The question is such a facer that it were simply preposterous to attempt to produce an argument against it. Boys and girls go to school, where the name of God is practically tabooed, and the devil given his work to do on every possible occasion, and the result is vicious men and women, steeped in selfishness, narrowness, uncharitableness, and dishonourableness. Fight the question

as we will, it is undeniable that Australians are much worse than they were a generation ago—there is a larger percentage of offences, there is an overwhelming increase in immorality, there is more flippancy, more disregard of the niceness that should distinguish conversation, and more brutality of thought and action. This is noticeable chiefly in the capitals, where the means exist to try and arrest it—the country's legislature. What the people in New South Wales really want to spur them to action is a Royal Commission appointed to examine, say, a thousand scholars or so, drawn at random from the different public schools of the colony. The writer forecasts that when the evidence those children would give under close examination was published to the world, parents generally would be so horrified that the reform of the system would become a primary question.'

THE GAME OF
WAR.

MAN is by natural inclination or cultivated and misdirected heredity a quarrelling and fighting animal. This is, perhaps, the reason why no story has such a fascination for the average ear as one of life-and-death struggles, gaping wounds and flowing blood, and dead men lying stark upon the trampled field. Apart from motives of high patriotism, the popular interest in war is part and parcel of the passion which brought people to the Coliseum long ago to see men 'butchered to make a Roman holiday'; which fills the open squares to-day to see perilous balloon ascents; which crowds the *plaza de toros* at a bull-fight, and strains the ropes at an exhibition of prize-fighting. It is, briefly, the morbid craving to see, or the hope of witnessing, hard blows and bruises or wounds or flowing blood or falls from the clouds or the goring of *picadores* and *chulos* or 'knock-out' blows or at least the complete and satisfactory 'gruelling' of a leaden-headed pugilist. The 'civilisation' of a part of the masses of our population is, apparently, a veneer, more or less thick or thin, which covers over the spirit of the old arena of pagan times. The feeling which still brings men—and used to bring 'ladies'—to encounters of this kind was wrought upon as follows in a hand-bill stuck on a house opposite the scene of the prize-fight between Johnson and Ryan. It ran as follows:—

This is to gif Notes: Man and women may come into this house att 3d a peace too sea the fite betweene the Inglishe Man an Irishe Man whiche accordinge to Accompts is to be a bloody one—there be 3 Winders in three one paire Staires so that you well have a fine sighte of the Comboutants—and I have a ball coney for the Ladies at a shillinge a peace.

That is just it. The combat was to be a 'bloody one.' And therein lay its chief attraction to the mob. The soldier looks to the military results of conflicts of armed men, the civil historian chiefly to their political aspects. But the man in the street and the war-poet twiddling the light guitar upon his cloudy perch have their eyes focussed—for the time at least—chiefly on the more direct and brutal work of bayonet and rifle-bullet and grape-shot and canister and bursting shell. And they like to see it well and thoroughly done. The military importance of the battle of Gettysburg, for instance, did not strike their fancy so forcibly as the fact that 44,000 men were 'laid out' upon the field—including 40 per cent. of all the Confederate troops that went into action. In the same way the decisive series of battles that raged around Gravelotte appealed most forcibly to the public mind through the fact that 62,000 men in the prime of life sprinkled the dust with their blood up and about its woody slopes. The man in the crowd feels a grim satisfaction at the thought that every friendly bullet finds its billet somewhere beneath the epidermis of the enemy. Fortunately it doesn't. For the average soldier is nervous or excited or a bit—sometimes a good bit—'funky' in battle, and his hand and eye are unsteady, and his aim wild and high. Even now, when he gets within 350 yards of the enemy, Thomas Atkins is ordered to fix bayonets, not so much with a view to carving up the enemy with them as to dip the muzzles of the rifles and so make Tommy 'fire low and lay 'em out.' Every bullet its billet, indeed! According to the eminent statistician, Mulhall,

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the British fired 15,000,000 shots, the French 29,000,000, and the Russians 45,000,000 in the Crimean War—total, 89,000,000. Well, the British lead is credited with the death of 21,000 Russians; the French with 51,000; and the Russian metal sent the life leaking out of 48,000 allies. It took the Russians 910 shots for every man they slew. The British managed things a little more economically—they killed an unspeakable Russo for every 700 shots they fired. The French did better practice still, and made a Russian soldier's funeral with 590 shots. The average for the campaign was a death for every 740 shots. They had better shooting machines in the Franco-German war, but it is doubtful if they used them to better account relatively to their greater killing capacity. The Germans fired off 30,000,000 musket cartridges and 363,000 rounds of artillery. They killed or mortally wounded 77,000 French troops. This was at the rate of 400 shots to every 'kill,' or, relatively, nearly twice the execution wrought in the Crimean campaign. Smokeless powder and small-bore magazine rifles and improved artillery and high explosive shells ought to enable Thomas Atkins to make bull's-eyes oftener in South Africa than ever in all his history, except, perhaps, at Omdurman. However, we shall see.

As a set-off, the cost of man-killing has increased enormously since the days of Inkerman—not to go back any farther. Engineering and invention have, in fact, made the phlebotomy of battle so expensive that it may ultimately work for good in the minds of the tax-payers when the question of declaring war is under consideration. In the old days of the Roman Empire, for instance, Julius Cæsar could fit up a galley for a cost not exceeding £1000. A modern battle-ship absorbs a cool £1,000,000. If a galley were rammed and sent to the bottom, and, say, 400 lives swallowed up in the salt water, the cost per man sacrificed would be £2 10s. The loss of a battle-ship and a like number of men would cost the tax-payers £2,500 for every soul sent to Davy Jones's locker. The magazine rifles in use in South Africa are sufficiently formidable weapons, in all reason. The British Lee-Metford carries eight rounds, the Mauser (the Boer weapon) five, of those long pencil-shaped bullets which are capable of passing through seven ranks of men at short range. They do not simply perforate a bone. They set about their work in much more determined fashion. A medical authority says that 'the part is always pounded, fragments are frequently carried out through the wound of exit, which is commonly converted into a gaping orifice, the muscles are pulped, and, in fact, the limb mangled and damaged beyond repair.' And all this at a mile from the levelled muzzle which guided its flight. Thus far the combatants in South Africa are very roughly estimated to have inflicted on each other a total list of 7206 casualties (including 2398 deaths), and the public are impatiently awaiting the big-scale slaughter that is expected to follow the arrival of the British reinforcements. The pecuniary value of the lives lost in this avoidable campaign is an item in the butcher's bill which few stop to consider. And yet it figures up largely in the reckoning. Many years ago, in his thirty-fifth annual report, the British Registrar-General estimated the value of a Norfolk agricultural labourer at the age of 25 years to be £246. The life-value of a Boer farmer or a British or New Zealand artisan is probably much higher than this, and the deaths upon the battle-fields of South Africa already represent probably a good round £1,000,000. Add to this the probably vastly greater percentage of deaths from sickness—that knock the starch so completely out of a soldier's patriotic ardour—and you come across a dire accompaniment of war to which no amount of Press huzzing and band-playing and smart tailoring and Press-censorship can ever reconcile Thomas Atkins, whether he hails from the Seven Dials or from the Australian bush or the genial shores of New Zealand.

THE Peculiar People have a short history. PRIVATE JUDG- They are a modest twig or branch of the
MENT: Faith-healing trunk, and first sprouted in
THE THEORY London in 1838—the year which, by the way,
AND witnessed the great riots at Broughton (Kent),
THE PRACTICE. occasioned by a long-bearded, wild-eyed
spouter named Thom, who professed to be
the Saviour and drew about himself a band of violent
simpletons who worshipped him as the Son of the Most High.
The Peculiar People hold fast by two chief tenets: 'the right
of private judgment' and the rejection of medical aid in cases
of disease—but, strangely enough, not in surgical cases.
When a Peculiar Person gets whooping-cough or typhoid
fever or cholera morbus, his friends give the doctor a wide
berth and place their whole trust in prayer, anointing with
oil (an unconscious tribute to a Catholic and Apostolic practice
of a different kind and intent), and patient and persevering
nursing. We learn, however, from *Truth* that a split has
arisen in the little camp of the Believers. Some weeks ago one
of the elders had three children seriously ill. His anxiety
to save the lives of his little ones led him to reconsider his 'private
judgment' as to his duty in the circumstances. He therefore
abandoned the principles of his sect to the extent of summoning

a physician. Net result: He was adjudged guilty of rank
heresy and deposed. A number of adherents of the Peculiar
People have followed him, and one of two results will follow:
Either the abandonment of the doctrine forbidding the employ-
ment of physicians, or the addition of yet another sect to the
eight hundred and more jarring creeds that are torturing the
atmosphere of England with their discordant cries.

The incident is not worth recording except in so far as it
throws a fresh flash of search-light upon the worthlessness of
the principle which is supposed to underlie the whole
superstructure of Protestantism. We refer to the principle of
individual private judgment as applied to the interpretation
of the Scriptures. The Reformers were entitled to hold the
patent of this doctrine, for it was their very own, and (in
American phrase) a brand-new idea. Before their time—as an
obvious matter of history—there had always been a Church
formally claiming and exercising the right to teach with
authority. Till the Reformation there never was a dissentient
voice against this principle of the living and authoritative
teaching voice of the Church of Christ. Everybody agreed that
'the Church' was a divinely appointed religious teacher,
however much they might differ as to which really was the
Church. Heretical bodies tried from time to time in the early
and middle ages to claim the authority of the true Church.
They taught false doctrine, but they always held that the
Church established by Christ had power to teach. And—to
the best of their little power—they *did* teach, or tried to teach.
The Arians, the Nestorians, and the rest fancied that they were
the true Church founded by the Saviour, and that the strange
doctrines they taught were the genuine interpretation of the
message which He left upon earth for men. But in the six-
teenth century men cut themselves adrift from the pulsing
centre of Catholic unity on quite a new principle. They did
not claim to be the witnesses appointed by Christ, the real
Church established by Him, the legitimate continuation of the
society founded by Him. No. They struck out on a new line
all their own. They claimed to have discovered an altogether
new method of reading and interpreting the Scriptures. They
fancied the new plan better than the old one of authority
which all Christendom had unanimously accepted for the first
fifteen hundred years of Christian history. They did not
claim to be themselves the Lord's witnesses; but they did insist
that they knew more and better about it all than the witnesses
He had appointed. That is just the length and breadth of it.

But, as a hard matter of fact, there has never been, there
is not, and there never can be, in any Christian corporate body
such a thing in actual and unrestrained practice as this boasted
principle of private judgement. Luther's system was merely a
scheme of theology which he had devised by his own reasoning
and interpretation of Scripture. He exercised to the full the
so-called 'right' of private judgment. But, then, he promptly
set about preventing anybody else doing the same by using
the secular arm where necessary and compelling the acceptance
of his religious theories at the point of the sword. Calvin, too,
exercised the 'right' of private judgment. He set no limit
upon himself, and at length formulated his system of theology.
He then set about penalising the exercise of private judgment
by anybody else. He made Geneva an inferno by his despotic
rule; he sent men to prison for adverse criticism of his
sermons; he banished them for daring to impugn his
doctrines; he made 'heresy' (of which he was judge) a capital
crime; and he burned Servetus at the stake, with his books
hung to his girdle, for a difference of opinion with him over a
single point of theology. A similar course of suppression of
private judgment was pursued by John Knox in Scotland, and
by Henry VIII., Cranmer, Elizabeth, and the whole body of
Reformers in England. Many English Puritans—who were
Calvinists—fled from persecution in their own country and
settled beyond the wide Atlantic in New England in order to
enjoy their 'right of private judgment' in peace. But they
took particular care that, so far as in them lay, this 'right'
should be a close monopoly. They persecuted with uncommon
vigour, and, says the Protestant writer Seeborn, 'under the
rule of the Boston "saints" there was as little religious liberty
as at Geneva.' The same remarks hold true of Norway,
Sweden, etc.

Sects of later growth have denied to their adherents the
exercise of private judgment as persistently in practice as they
have asserted the 'right' in theory. They profess to listen to
no living authority. But, as a matter of fact, each and all of
them have their unwritten law, their traditional interpretations
—in other words, their living code and teaching—from which
they will permit no radical departure. Their 'view' of Scrip-
ture is very carefully laid down. The inspired Writings are to
be looked at in this light and no other. Their followers may
interpret the Bible in their own fashion, but—they must not
find therein anything which clashes with the living traditions of
their body. Any departure from these—especially in the
direction of 'Romanism'—would raise the whole sect up in
arms against the 'innovator.' And thus we have the
deposition of an elder among the Peculiar People; and heresy

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trials (as in the case of Dr. Briggs and Rev. Mr. Ferguson) among our Presbyterian friends; and so on. We do not blame them for this, except in so far as they are inconsistent in proclaiming a right and at the same time refusing the exercise of it to its logical extent. For by the nature of things there never has been and there never can be a living organised religious body held together by such a perpetually shifting principle as that of private judgment as applied to the interpretation of the Scriptures. We say a 'living organised body,' and not merely a collection of human particles flung together hap-hazard, without any bond of union or relation to a common centre, or power of united action. The non-Catholic denominations are organised corporate bodies only by virtue of that living code of teaching which they, in theory, repudiate, and which is, nevertheless, a practical condemnation of the principle of private judgment and a tacit, though unacknowledged, appreciation of the great Catholic doctrine of the teaching authority of the Church of Christ.

DREYFUSIANA.

AN ENGLISH CATHOLIC DREYFUS—CARDINAL NEWMAN

In our last two issues we devoted attention to certain English, Irish, and American cases, some of which far out-Dreyfused the now famous Dreyfus affair. The latest issue to hand of the *London Tablet* brings forward another famous modern instance in which the British Press and the great bulk of the non-Catholic population of England united in hounding down Dr. (afterwards Cardinal) Newman. One Achilli, an apostate monk, had been lecturing in Exeter Hall (London), in Birmingham, and other places on his so-called 'escape from the dungeons of the Inquisition,' and indulging in the usual tirade of fierce and foul-mouthed calumny that has made the 'ex-priest' campaign of our times stink in the nostrils of decent people of every creed. As usual with such propagandists of the gospel of lying, Achilli had no other credentials than the good he cared to affirm of himself and the evil he ascribed to his neighbours. This, however, amply satisfied the uncritical mob who listened to his evil tales, and a wave of popular religious passion against the Catholic body swept over the country. Dr. Newman, however, was not satisfied to see the public misled by the wretched renegade. He told the truth about Achilli, the evil liver, the breaker of the moral law. An action for libel followed. The *Tablet* says: 'The evidence against Achilli was overwhelming. The Inquisition had indeed passed sentence upon him, and deprived him of the exercise of all ecclesiastical functions for ever. The women who were his victims came from Italy to confront him in the English court. The jury, notwithstanding, found a verdict of guilty, to the great satisfaction of Lord Campbell, a Presbyterian first and a judge afterwards. The sentence, deferred for six months, was finally pronounced by Sir John Taylor Coleridge, who delivered a little homily, curious now to remember as having then been thought by the Bar and Bench of England proper to the occasion. Dr. Newman, said the judge, did not publish his indictment of Dr. Achilli from personal malice, but "because Dr. Achilli had assailed a religion Dr. Newman had held dear." Still, "it was not to be denied that he had repeated the offensive expressions as if they were matter for exultation and merriment!" On this amazing premiss followed the almost contradictory exhortation: "Whether henceforward you will take any part in the controversy between the churches, it will be for you to determine; but I think the pages before me should give you this warning, that you should engage in it neither personally nor bitterly." The sentence was declared to be a fine of £100, "and that you be imprisoned in the first class of misdemeanants in the Queen's prison until the fine be paid."

In those days the now decadent *Times*, almost alone of all the English Press, espoused the cause of Dr. Newman. Speaking of the result of the trial, it said: 'To Protestants and Romanists the case, truly viewed, is unimportant. Its real significance is the discredit it has tended to throw on our administration of justice, and the impression which it has tended to disseminate—that where religious differences come into play, a jury is the echo of popular feeling, instead of being the expositor of its own view.' Says the *Tablet*: 'We commend the words, applicable to-day in every letter of them, to the notice of those who talk, as a Russian talks this week, of France's having "definitely fallen from the rank it occupied among civilised peoples," because its sense of justice has been "atrophied by the intensity of political and religious passions." France at any rate overruled the judgment against the Jew Captain; England allowed that against the Catholic Priest to stand. It stayed upon our legal records, and, in the irony of events, it was appealed to as a precedent by a Solicitor-General before Lord Chief Justice Cockburn, who twenty-five years before had been a junior counsel for Dr. Newman. "That case," he said in reply to the Solicitor-General, "created a painful impression on my mind, never to be effaced. I was beaten, Mr. Solicitor, but I ought to have been the victor." The *Times* and the Lord Chief Justice spoke; and Dreyfus never had so few defenders. They spoke once, but not again; and Dreyfus in France found men and papers to call out importunately. The usually just and generous English people did not care a button that a man of high honour had been labelled a libeller, and that he had been saddled with debts which threatened for him a life of drudgery akin to that which darkened the later life of his favourite novelist, Sir Walter Scott. And whence came his helpers? The answer seems too ready to hand, too pertinent. It was a French paper, it was the *Univers*, that opened a subscription then for this victim of English religious passion. And if another link were needed for addition to

links that were lately refurbished, and to those that were forged anew, in the chain of mutual support that binds together Catholics in France and Catholics in England, we should seek it to-day in the letter addressed by Dr. Newman, on the Feast of St. Denis in 1852 [the seventh anniversary of his reception into the Church] to the French subscribers to his costs. "I cannot," he writes, "call the charges which weigh on me a misfortune, when they have produced for me the sympathy and generosity of a Catholic nation; and I think I may without presumption believe that the glorious St. Denis, who presided over my reception into the bosom of Catholicism, has, as it were, presented me a second time to the embraces of the Church, by recommending me to the tender charity of the great nation of which he is the apostle."

THE JESUITS AND THE DREYFUS CASE.

Some time ago—in our issue of September 21, 1899—we gave signal disproof of the foolish tale that the Jesuits were, in some unstatesd way, at the bottom of the troubles of Captain Dreyfus. The distinguished Jesuit Father, the Rev. Sydney Smith, contributes a lengthy letter to the discussion in the *London Times* of September 26. After pointing out the inaccuracies of a so-called 'interview' with him by the *Monitor*, he goes on to say:—"So far as I could make out, for I could not follow the reports very minutely, the prosecution relied chiefly on an intelligible but somewhat thin scheme of circumstantial evidence, which was contested at every point. Hence I anticipated a verdict of acquittal, and certainly I hoped for such, the letters of the accused, his bearing, and some other things seeming to me to mark him as innocent. When the verdict of guilty came out I was surprised like other people, and wondered how it was to be explained. It certainly looked, if one could rely on the English reports, like a miscarriage of justice. At the same time it did not appear to me so psychologically intelligible that the members of the court-martial were miscreants who had acted in sheer callousness of heart, condemning a man whilst convinced of his innocence, out of Anti-Semitic hatred, or in the improbable expectation of thereby the better securing their promotion. An easier theory seemed to be that there was something in the evidence more impressive than the reports had allowed us to see, and which, even if insufficient really to prove guilt, might have appeared to be sufficient to the Judges; for this seems to me one of the important lessons to be learnt from the Rennes trial, that it is a downright absurdity to entrust the decision on such highly-complicated evidence to a few majors and captains, under one colonel, none of whom had received a legal training. This, at all events, is my humble opinion on the subject, and I suspect it is also the opinion of a good many others in this country who are neither Jesuits nor Catholics, but merely plain men who strive not to lose their heads in times of general hysterics.

'In any case—allow me to repeat it once more—the Jesuits have had nothing to do with the matter, neither they nor their military pupils, for none of those who have figured in the trial, or at all events, have figured in it at all prominently, have belonged to this category. Possibly there is one exception to this general statement. I have been told by a French friend, who, however, could not speak for certain, that one of the members of the court-martial had been brought up in a school with which the Society is connected. He was noticed to spend much time in prayer in Rennes Cathedral during the intervals of the sessions, and I daresay our assailants would take that as a decisive proof that he was nerving himself to do an injustice. I should take the opposite view. I may add that some of the special correspondents—your own among them, I think—conjectured that he was one of the two minority voters. [The exception here referred to is Major de Bréon. He is a devout Catholic, and, according to the *Petit-Bleu*, voted against the condemnation of Dreyfus.—Ed. N.Z.T.]

'As for Mr. Conybeare's insistence that, in spite of our formal denials, we were at the bottom of the whole business, and are even the founders and conductors of the *Libre Parole*, I would invite your readers to notice how entirely incapable he is of proving his point. "Most persons abreast of the facts declare" it to be as he says. "Every one in France knows that the *haute armée* has of late been in the hands of the Jesuits and clericals." It is on these vague phrases that he has to rely, and on one or two anecdotes told in a form which they have assumed after passing across three or four or more malicious tongues. If it is distressing, as it certainly is, that so much hearsay evidence was admitted against Dreyfus, why is it so reasonable to base solely and entirely upon it not less serious charges against the Jesuits?

'Mention has been made of our Jesuit periodicals. Well, try us by our periodicals, but go to them direct, and do not study them in the distorting medium of pages like Mr. Conybeare's. They are the *Etudes Religieuses* in France, the *Civiltà Cattolica* in Rome, and the *Month* in this country—these, and these only. I emphasise the word "only." You will be surprised to find how little they have said on the subject—how much less, in fact, than one might have expected, seeing how the question was before the public; and again how quietly they have said what they have said. You will find, too, that they have observed the wholesome rule of not commenting on a trial while it is in progress. It is long certainly since the *Etudes* had an article even on the remoter bearings of the case, and it passes the conclusion of this second court-martial, as I think, it passed over all the preceding trials, without any comment at all. In the *Month* I wrote three articles, purely in self-defence, at the beginning of this year. Mr. Conybeare has on former occasions quoted, or professed to quote, some passages from the *Civiltà*, and when I first read them in the *National Review* I felt annoyed that the *Civiltà* should write like that. On looking to the *Civiltà* itself I found that all these quotations, or rather the originals which he had summarised in his own way rather than quoted, bore a very different construction to what he gave them. And, besides, they were not in the body of the paper, but in its French correspondence, being mostly colourless chronicling of the different

stages of the agitation. The only article of its own which the *Civiltà* has given to the subject was as far back as January, 1898; and that one article, if not altogether free from Anti-Semitism itself (which I hate with all my heart), is engaged in rebuking as "impracticable, unjust, and un-Christian" the Anti-Semite proposals of a then recent writer. It was not an article on the rights and wrongs of the Dreyfus case.

'That some of the French clerical papers have, like *La Croix*, been violent to the point of being even un-Christian in their language is apparently only too true. I deplore it and feel it very keenly, but of course have no power to stop it. I do not see, however, why it is to be forgotten by the numerous anti-clericals who are attacking us that by the side of the anti-clerical papers in their attacks on the Catholics the clerical papers are models of meekness. And it was the anti-clerical papers which began the campaign.'

AN INDEPENDENT TESTIMONY.

The Paris correspondent of the *Tablet* writes as follows in its issue of September 30 regarding a leading Republican paper in Paris:—A few days ago the *République Française*, which is generally regarded as the organ of M. Méline, contained the following statement: 'It is quite groundlessly, in my opinion, that the Jesuits have served as scapegoats to the more frantic partisans of Dreyfus. Now for a long time past the Jesuits have been restricted to their duties as examination coaches for youths of the higher and wealthier classes. They teach their scholars mathematics, physics, and chemistry, not hatred of our institutions. There is an immeasurable amount of exaggeration in the charges which are heaped upon this famous Society. Since it ceased to shrive kings it is no longer a political congregation.'

THE NEWSPAPER CONSPIRACY.

Mr. John Murray Gibson, one of the sub-editors of *Black and White*, tells, in its issue of September 16, his impressions of a visit to Rennes during the sittings of the court-martial. He went as a Dreyfusard. He returned home disgusted with the methods of Dreyfus's friends and supporters. The object of his journey was to hand over to Maître Labori (Dreyfus's counsel) six documents bearing upon the case. M. Labori coolly asked him to bear false witness regarding the presentation and acceptance of these documents. This he refused to do. This and other matters forced upon him the conviction that 'perhaps the bad faith was not altogether on the side of the General Staff, but that most questionable methods of intrigue were to be found among the Dreyfusards as well.' He refers to the falsification of news by certain telegraph agencies; and condemns in forcible terms the 'scandalous misquotations, and garbling of evidence by certain English and German papers. A leading English morning paper was, he said, guilty of 'a disgraceful piece of garbling' in connection with evidence which he (Mr. Murray Gibson) had heard at the court-martial. 'One paragraph said he "was so obviously biased that the editor of the paper in question had to supplement it by a verbatim report taken from an independent source. The paper in question had often sickened me with its "gallicised" reports of the trial, but I had never properly realised the extent of the mischief. The report in question was, to my certain knowledge, written by a man who has the strongest of all reasons for being partial, and who is in constant touch with Mathieu Dreyfus and Maître Labori—surely the last person to be entrusted with the task of giving fair accounts to the English public.' One of the most amazing things in Mr. Gibson's article is his statement that the special correspondent of a leading English daily requested him to alter the photographic facsimile of the famous bordereau 'in a manner which he (the correspondent) eventually admitted would be practically a forgery.'

V A R I A .

JEWIS IN THE FRENCH ARMY.

Since the days of Marshal Masséna (himself a Jew) considerable numbers of Jews have occupied high positions in the French army. Captain Dreyfus himself was into the very *arcana* of the War-office; his uncle, Major Weil, was chief aide-de-camp to General Saussier, who was Commander-in-Chief a few years ago; and several scores of others fill at the present time good positions in the army. The French Jews are very few in number—only about 72,000—but more than one-third of the Prefects of Departments are at this moment of Hebrew race and religion. Gambetta and Ferry were both Jews.

THE CROIX.

The *Croix*, which was marked by such violent animosity to Dreyfus, has so far recovered as to rejoice at his pardon, and, with the President of the Republic, 'demands that the past shall be forgotten and the future allowed to be peaceful.'

A FEARLESS CATHOLIC JOURNALIST.

The one man in French journalism that preserved his judgment cool and treated the Dreyfus affairs with perfect impartiality was M. Cornély, late of the *Gaulois* and now editor of the *Figaro*. He did a noble work in connection with the Rennes court-martial by publishing the only full and accurate verbatim report of the proceedings, and had the courage to risk the prosperity of *Figaro* by embracing a cause that was hateful to the class upon whose support it chiefly relied. M. Cornély gave up his position on the *Gaulois* and quitted his friends to work as a Dreyfusard from conviction. The *Catholic Times* says of him that 'he is a *bona fide* Catholic, and, moreover, of pronounced Monarchical tendencies. We may state, by the way, that he reads the Bible through once a year. He severed his connection with the French Bar at the time of the "Ferry" expulsions in 1880 through disgust at the iniquities then committed in the name of the law.'

THE BOER WAR.

THE BUTCHER'S BILL THUS FAR.

An ex-military man, writing in the *Lyttelton Times*, has compiled from the cables the losses sustained by both sides in killed, wounded and prisoners, from the commencement of hostilities until Thursday of last week. The estimates are far from accurate, still they give a very good idea of the deadly character of modern warfare, compared with that of even half a century ago. The total losses are—British: killed, 638; wounded, 1296; prisoners, 1007; total, 2941. Boers: killed, 1760; wounded, 3512; prisoners, 1400; total 6672. The loss from actual casualties (killed and wounded) are—British, 1934; Boers, 5272; total casualties, 7206.

LYDDITE SHELLS.

The cable messages inform us from time to time that the British forces in South Africa are using Lyddite shells with terrible effect on the Boer ranks. As very little is known of this apparently new explosive, the following account by a military authority will be of interest:—

Lyddite derives its name from the village of Lydd, in Kent, where there is a Government artillery range, at which the first experiments were made. The explosive is a form of picric acid, which is brought to a liquid form, and poured into the shell whilst hot. The acid is allowed to solidify, and at once becomes an explosive of extraordinary high power. It has the great advantage over dynamite that it can be handled with perfect safety, a characteristic which differentiates it from the high explosives used by most of the European powers. The French, especially, who have adopted melinite, have had several disastrous accidents due to the sensitiveness of that compound. When the Lyddite has solidified in the shell, the projectile is fitted with a base fuse and powerful detonator. The fuse can be timed to explode the shell at any part of its flight with the greatest accuracy, while the shell will explode independently of the fuse if it strikes a rock or even a bank of hard earth. If it strikes soft earth it buries itself for a considerable distance, and then becomes a kind of mine, which explodes by the action of the fuse, and causes havoc to any troops who may be near. A peculiar property which Lyddite possesses is that it breaks an ordinary shell into many hundreds of fragments, and distributes destruction over a far wider area than the common type of projectile.

But while the shell itself is a terrible instrument of destruction, the gun by which it is fired has also been brought to a condition of precision which is little short of marvellous. Lyddite shells are fired from breech-loading howitzers, with a very high trajectory, and the howitzer batteries are supplied with range-finders that enable the commanding officer, after the first two or three shots, to drop shells one after another, within a circumference of ten yards, even at a range of two and a-half miles. This extraordinary accuracy is obtained by means of 'observers,' placed to the right and left of the battery, with instruments connected by telephone to the officer commanding. As each shot is fired the officer in charge directs the range-finder upon the spot where the shot lodges. The range-finder gives the angle that the shot makes with their position, and the angles are telephoned at once to the officer commanding the battery. By the use of 'plane tables' and a sliding rule, he is enabled to calculate the exact range at once, and the guns are so accurate that he can then drop his shells upon any point that he likes up to a range of 4000 yards, and even further. The high trajectory of the howitzer has a special and startling use, because fortifications, whether natural or artificial, are no defence against it. The Lyddite shell simply soars over the top of the rocks or earthworks behind which the enemy in sheltering and explodes upon their heads.

THE CAPE PARLIAMENT.

Roughly speaking (writes T. P. O'Connor in *M.A.P.*) the Cape Parliament consists mainly of lawyers, doctors, and farmers, with a sprinkling of merchants, three journalists, and two or three ex-military men. Dr. Berry is the Speaker. Dr. Te Water is a Minister without portfolio. Dr. Rutherford Harris is one of the members for Kimberley. Dr. Hoffman is prominent by the rabid anti-British spirit he from time to time displays. Dr. Smartt is an ex-Minister, and Dr. Smuts is a well-known Africaner supporter of Rhodes, as also is Dr. Vanes. The Hon. W. P. Schreiner, Q.C., the Premier, who is accused of siding with the Boers, is a well-known legal light, as also are the Hon. R. Solomon (Attorney-General), and the Hon. J. Rose-Innes, who was once wittily described as a man with a great future behind him. The Hon. J. W. Sauer, Commissioner, is another lawyer, as is his supporter, J. C. Molteno. Major Tamplin, Q.C., is a supporter of the Opposition, and Mr. Advocate Sampson, the member for Albany, is another. Agriculture claims about fifty per cent. of the members, and there are at least three whose profession one could describe as 'millionaires.' Journalism is represented by Mr. F. Y. St. Leger, the late editor of the *Cape Times*, and Mr. Edmund Garrett, the present occupant of the editorial chair; whilst Mr. E. H. Walton, the member for Port Elizabeth, holds a similar position on the *Eastern Province Herald*.

A JOHANNESBURG EDITOR.

Mr. Monypenny, the editor of the *Johannesburg Star*, who escaped arrest in the Transvaal by bolting over the border and getting safe into British territory, is an Ulster man, a native of Armagh, educated at Dungannon, and afterwards at Trinity College, whence he went to Oxford. Mr. Monypenny was on the staff of the *London Times* before he went out to South Africa, and when he went there he became correspondent to the *Times* as well as editor of the *Johannesburg Star*.

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THE BRITISH AGENT AT PRETORIA.

One of the most onerous posts in South Africa of late has been that of British agent at Pretoria, which has been ably filled by Mr. Conyngham Greene, an Irishman. Born nearly 45 years ago, he is the eldest son of Mr. R. J. Greene, and the Hon. Louisa, fourth daughter of the third Baron Plunkett. In 1884 he married Lily, fifth daughter of the Earl of Courtown. Educated at Harrow and Pembroke College, Oxford, he entered the Diplomatic Service in 1887, and since 1896 has officiated as British agent at Pretoria. Mr. Greene was in Pretoria when war was declared.

Diocesan News.

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

November 11.

At St. Mary of the Angels' on last Sunday about 100 children received their First Communion. The Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father O'Shea, who also preached a short sermon impressing on the children the solemnity of the occasion. Hymns were sung at the Mass by the children of the schools. Some of the ladies of the parish provided an excellent breakfast for the communicants. The renewal of Baptismal vows was made at St. Joseph's Church after Vespers.

Mr. and Mrs. John Cudby, of the Lower Hutt, celebrated their golden wedding on Thursday. There were over 100 guests. The proposing of the health of the fortunate couple was left in the capable hands of the Very Rev. Father Lane who in a happy speech referred to the many services which Mr. and Mrs. Cudby had rendered the district, and conveyed to them the best wishes of those assembled for their future welfare. Among the numerous presents received was a hand-painted mirror, on which are depicted the ships 'Thomas Sparkes' and 'Blenheim,' in which Mr. and Mrs. Cudby arrived in Wellington in 1842 and 1840 respectively.

A general meeting of St. Mary's Convent ex-Pupils' Association was held on Saturday at the Convent, Hill street. There was a fair attendance of members. The committee reported that a section of land had been purchased by the Association for the Sisters at Titahi Bay, near Porirua. It was decided to thank Mr. R. O'Connor, who gratuitously acted as agent for the Association in the transaction. It was also resolved to endeavour to raise sufficient funds to build a cottage for the nuns, and for this purpose a garden party is to be held in the Convent grounds at an early date. The cost of the ground was £50 and it is estimated that to build a suitable cottage a further outlay of £250 will be necessary.

A very pleasing function took place at the presbytery, Boulcott street, on Tuesday evening, when presentations on behalf of various religious bodies were made to Miss North, who is leaving to enter the Convent of the Sisters of Charity at Woolloomooloo, Sydney. The Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, president of St. Vincent de Paul Society, presented her on behalf of that body with a handsome morocco-bound *Garden of the Soul* and *The Imitation of Christ*. It was, he said, with extreme regret that the members heard of her impending departure, but they were pleased to know she would still continue to work for the one great cause and would become in truth a follower of St. Vincent de Paul. Miss North had for years been identified with all Church organisations here, but particularly with the St. Vincent de Paul Society, of which she had been the mainstay, and the great work done by her could only be gauged by the universal respect in which she was held by all who had been acquainted with her. He wished her every blessing and happiness in her new life. Rev. Father O'Shea, on behalf of the other societies, then presented her with *Hammond's Meditations, Growth in the Knowledge of Our Lord, The Life of Pope Leo, The Office of the Blessed Virgin*, and an explanation of the office. He heartily endorsed all that had been said by the Ven. Archdeacon. Mr. Kelly returned thanks for Miss North.

NAPIER.

(From our own correspondent.)

November 8.

On Sunday last, at St. Patrick's, High Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Huault, S.M., assisted by Rev. Father Lézer as deacon, and Rev. Father Bell, S.M., as sub-deacon. At its conclusion the beautiful devotion of the Forty Hours commenced with the procession of the Blessed Sacrament. The Very Rev. Dean Grogan, S.M., preached a fervent discourse exhorting the people to approach the Sacraments during the devotion. Right loyally indeed did they respond, the communicants during the time numbering about four hundred. On Sunday evening the Rev. Father Huault preached a powerful sermon to a large congregation, and on Monday evening the Rev. Dr. Kennedy gave an instructive discourse on the love of the Sacred Heart. High Mass on Tuesday was celebrated by Rev. Father Binsfeld, S.M., assisted as deacon and sub-deacon respectively by Rev. Father Hickson and the Rev. Father Bell. The Forty Hours' devotion was brought to a close by the procession round the inside of the church.

It is intended to hold a concert about the 6th prox. in aid of the school prize fund. The cause is being warmly taken up by our worthy townsman, Mr. John Higgins, whose well-known zeal and enthusiasm in all matters parochial are sufficient guarantee that it will be a financial success.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND.

(From our own correspondent.)

November 9.

A collection is now going on in the Cathedral Parish with the object of reducing the presbytery debt.

The concert recently given by the pupils of St. Patrick's Convent schools, under the able management of the Sisters of Mercy, was, I am pleased to relate, a financial success.

Rev. Bro. John, Provincial of the Marist Order in Australasia, arrived from Sydney by the Waihora last Monday. Brother John is making his annual visit to the houses of the Order throughout the Colony.

The annual examination of our city schools by Mr. Gerald Peacocke is now in progress. During the last few days the pupils of St. Patrick's Convent Schools have been put through their examination with, I am told, satisfactory results.

The monthly procession took place in the Cathedral last Sunday evening. Dean O'Reilly preached a very fine sermon upon the great Catholic duty of praying for the repose of the souls of the dead. There was a very large congregation.

The Rev. Father Gillan, assisted by the Rev. Fathers Golden and Buckley, commenced at the church of St. Francis de Sales, Devonport, last evening, a week's mission. Mass and instruction are to be given every morning, and Rosary and sermon every evening.

The large and beautifully stained glass window behind the grand altar of St. Benedict's Church was, on last Saturday morning, during a heavy westerly gale, blown from its place, the fragments filling the sanctuary. Rev. Father Darby was saying Mass at the time, and was compelled to finish the ceremony at one of the side altars.

The concert last Friday evening in St. Benedict's Hall, in aid of the funds of the parochial Christmas Fair was most successful. The hall was filled, and the performers acquitted themselves most creditably. The details were arranged by Rev. Father Darby, Miss Coffey, and Messrs. Callaghan, Knott, Corbett, and Stead, to whom every credit is due.

A most disquieting rumour was circulated last week to the effect that our dear Bishop had died in London, and that a cablegram announcing it had arrived in the city. Some mischievous person actually telephoned this news to the Bishop's Palace at Ponsonby. It is much a matter for regret that punishment cannot be meted out to those who circulate such false and alarming news.

At the Sacred Heart Church, Ponsonby, on last Sunday, the choir performed very creditably Weber's Mass in G. The choir was assisted by Miss Annie O'Sullivan and Miss Hickling, of Pollard's Opera Company. These two ladies divided between them the soprano solos. During the offertory Miss O'Sullivan, with flute obligato, sang Gounod's 'Ave Maria.' At Vespers Miss Hickling also contributed a solo. Mr. T. H. Bosworth ably conducted the choir.

The arrival of William of Orange in Torbay, November 5, 1688, was commemorated by a handful of Orangemen in yellow sashes, who paraded the streets last Sunday evening in the twilight, and halted at a conventicle wherein the Grand-Master, a parson, harangued them. Here we have the spectacle of sounding the praises and honouring the Dutchman, while in another corner of the globe they are engaged decimating him with Lyddite shells and Maxims.

So far the Catholics of Auckland city have not, collectively speaking, moved a little finger upon the question of education, though the political combat is now several weeks old. In the various committees for promoting the interests of those seeking Parliamentary honours numbers of our people are busily engaged. If, while so employed, a united effort were made to secure pledges from those for whom they so assiduously work in the matter of obtaining State inspectorship for our schools, much good would have been accomplished. In this connection, however, our Catholics are like the Irish soldiers in that they fight everyone's battle successfully but their own.

His Lordship Dr. Cowie, Anglican Primate, thus spoke last Sunday:—'November 5 is a memorable anniversary in our British annals. On November 5, 1605, the King and the Houses of Parliament were to be blown up, in retaliation for the oppressive laws that had been put in force against members of the Roman Church. By such a holocaust it was hoped that they would be redeemed from submission to the sovereign power of England. Such laws of religious intolerance would not be endured by any British subjects to-day; but, after the favours shown by the Pope to the projectors of the Spanish Armada, and after his iniquitous absolving of the Roman subjects of Queen Elizabeth from their allegiance to her, extraordinary precautions were considered necessary. In any case, let us have no anniversaries of that 5th of November observed in New Zealand, where the members of all sections of Christ's Universal Church are equally loyal and patriotic.'

The series of socials inaugurated by the St. Benedict's Club in aid of the hall fund, were brought to a close last evening with a most enjoyable entertainment and social. During the course of the evening the members presented the Very Rev. Dr. Egan, the club's organiser and late president, with an illuminated address, in a handsome carved oak frame, in recognition of the invaluable services he had rendered the club during his term of office, and as a token of the esteem in which he was held by those with whom he had been associated. The address, which was presented by the Rev. Father Darby, was as follows:—'To the Very Rev. D. Osmond Egan, O.S.B.—We, the members of St. Benedict's Club, take this opportunity of thanking you for your numerous acts of kindness and hearty co-operation in all matters concerning the progress of our endeavours. This club was organised by you in 1894 for the purpose of promoting social, physical, and spiritual knowledge to those who wished to avail themselves of such

advantages. We are proud of the esteem and respect extended towards you by everyone with whom you are acquainted, and if by our success in various branches we have given pleasure to our patrons, it is because we possessed in you, our president, a faithful guide and director, whose loving friendship will ever be cherished by our members.' Dr. Egan responded in feeling terms, referring to the pleasure it afforded him to assist the club, and assuring the members that he would continue to watch its future with a keen personal interest.

DIocese OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

November 13.

His Lordship the Bishop spent last week in town and left on Saturday for Little River, where, on Sunday last, there were First Communion, Confirmation, and opening of the mission.

The Very Rev. Dean Hoyne, V.G., of Ballarat, and Rev. Father Kelsh, of Tasmania, were the guests of the Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais, V.G., at the presbytery, Barbadoes street, over Sunday last. The Rev. Father Kelsh celebrated the 9.30 a.m. Mass at the Pro-Cathedral, and in the afternoon both visitors were driven to Mount Magdala.

Valuable aid was given the Pro-Cathedral choir at High Mass on Sunday last by Mr. Walter Kirby, who took part in Gounod's 'Troisième Solennelle,' and at the Offertory he sang Packer's 'Ave Maria.' The music of the Mass was exceptionally well given. Mr. H. H. Loughnan conducted, and Miss Funston presided at the organ. Mr. Kirby is announced to give a concert during the week in the Choral Hall.

I notice in the interim report of Mr. Myles Birket Foster, examiner in music of Trinity College, London, that in the practical local examinations (students' certificates) Miss K. Picken, of the Sacred Heart High School (Sisters of the Mission), passed with honours for pianoforte (intermediate division), and Master E. J. Brownie (a pupil of the Sisters of Mercy, Lyttelton), violin (junior division) also with honours.

Carnival week, as usual, attracted visitors from every part of the Colony to such an extent that the city has on no similar occasion appeared so crowded. This was particularly noticeable on Friday last, the 'peoples day' of the Agricultural Show, when it is estimated that over forty thousand persons were present. The weather throughout the week was all that could be desired, and, save one or two at the races, there was a marked immunity from serious accidents. Even this year's carnival, successful in every respect as it has been, is likely to be eclipsed next year, when it is to be combined with the provincial jubilee celebrations.

TIMARU.

(From our own correspondent.)

November 13.

A most delightful trip was undertaken by the Timaru Aloysian Club on Thursday last, the 9th inst., when a large party of ladies and gentlemen journeyed by drags to Gordon's bush. They were favoured with ideal weather. After a pleasant drive of fourteen miles the bush was reached. Luncheon was then prepared by the ladies. Grace having been said by the Rev. Father McDonnell all present did full justice to a most excellent repast. After luncheon the party set out to view the glories of the bush. The company started for home about half-past six in the evening, after having spent a most enjoyable day's outing. The members of the Aloysian Club are to be congratulated on the able manner in which the arrangements had been carried out.

I understand that the net proceeds of the bazaar come to about 800. The exact amount will not be known for a few days.

THAT SICK-CALL OUTFIT.

THE SEQUEL OF A COURTEOUS NOTE.

COURTESY is a valued factor in social life. But on some people it is thrown away—as, for instance, on book-agents and those oily and enterprising perambulating agents who supply unwary Catholic householders with new-fangled articles of devotion and religious lumber at not more than ten times their real value. From a communication received from the Bishop of Christchurch, we learn that on his Lordship's return from Europe he was presented with a 'sick-call outfit.' The donor, on the plea that he was merely an agent, at the same time requested his Lordship to acknowledge the receipt of the article in question. With his usual affable courtesy, his Lordship did so. His letter was a private one, and merely a friendly acknowledgment of what he deemed a friendly gift, and the expression of an intention to exhibit it at the forthcoming bazaar. Bishop Grimes now finds, to his disgust, that copies of his private note are, without his sanction or authorisation, being distributed by those itinerant agents, and that some simple-minded people are deluded into the curious fancy that his Lordship is, therefore, in some way associated with the sale and delivery of the goods! His Lordship requests us, therefore, to state that he is absolutely for nothing in the matter, and that the use of his name in the manner referred to, besides being a breach of common courtesy, is wholly unauthorised, opposed to his wishes, and contrary to the purpose which he had in his mind in giving a courteous acknowledgment to what he erroneously believed at the time to be a courteous and disinterested gift.

ST. JOSEPH'S CLUB ENTERTAINMENT, DUNEDIN.

THOSE who attended the Garrison Hall, Dunedin, on Thursday night in the expectation of enjoying an excellent evening's amusement were not disappointed, as the entertainment given by the members of St. Joseph's Gymnastic Club, the pupils of the Christian Brothers, the Dominican Nuns, and the Sisters of Mercy was one of the best that has been given there for some time. There was a good audience, and the financial results were satisfactory. The entertainment opened with a kindergarten performance by about thirty pupils of the Dominican Nuns—the boys attired as sailors, the girls in pretty white costumes—who gave a laughing song and went through their pretty movements with admirable precision. The junior and senior pupils of the Christian Brothers' School then exhibited their proficiency as gymnasts, and a very creditable display it was, showing that the physical training of the boys receives more than ordinary attention from their painstaking teachers. The next item was a chorus, 'Drifting,' in which about sixty children of the Valley Dominican School took part. The little performers, attired in pretty costumes, made a very effective group on the stage, and their singing was creditable alike to themselves and their devoted teachers. The pupils of the Christian Brothers' School gave an admirable performance of a scene from 'The Rivals,' in which they excelled any of their previous dramatic efforts. The costumes were appropriate, and the boys entered into the spirit of the piece in a manner which could only be attained by careful training. The parts were sustained by Masters F. Bevin, P. Wilson, E. Durning, and R. Burke, all of whom acquitted themselves well, especially the two first-mentioned. The second part of the programme opened with a gymnastic exhibition by the members of St. Joseph's Club. When it is remembered that the club has been in existence less than six months, the value of the training imparted there could be gauged by the finished manner in which the performance was given. The display was a good criterion of the work done in the gymnasium, and of the benefits conferred by it on our young men. That youthful elocutionist, Master C. Marlow, next favoured the audience with a recitation, 'Babies,' which created great amusement, and was remarkably well done. The pupils of the Sisters of Mercy School, South Dunedin, then showed their proficiency in a pretty Spanish dance and *tableau*, in which the admirable instruction received was shown in the graceful movements of the children, whose bright and varied dresses, as they went through the intricacies of the performance, made an exceedingly pretty picture. A recitation, 'Reclaimed,' by Miss L. Mee, was delivered with an amount of dramatic power and pathos that might be envied by more experienced reciters. Another gymnastic display, in which the members of St. Joseph's Club and the pupils of the Christian Brothers' School took part, followed. The various items were neatly and cleverly done, and the audience showed their appreciation by frequent applause. A grand floral march by the pupils of the Dominican Nuns, remarkable for the precision with which the intricate movements were performed, and a song and chorus concluded the entertainment.

As this was the first venture by the club since its start a few months ago, they are to be congratulated on the excellent account which the members gave of themselves. It is unnecessary here to refer to the painstaking manner in which the Christian Brothers strive to develop the moral and intellectual faculties of their pupils, whilst the display on Thursday night showed that physical culture obtains a very prominent place in the curriculum of the school. We doubt if there is any state school in the district could compare with them in this branch of culture. The successful part taken by the pupils of the Dominican nuns and of the Sisters of Mercy was a very strong proof of the thoroughness of the education imparted at both these schools. The club is to be congratulated on providing such an admirable evening's enjoyment, and also on giving the people of Dunedin an opportunity of seeing what is being done here for the intellectual and physical culture of the rising generation of Catholics. The gymnastic displays were carried out under the direction of Mr. J. C. Smith, who had every reason to be proud of his pupils, and the accompaniments during the evening were played by Miss K. Moloney and Mr. F. H. Stokes. A word of praise is due to Mr. J. Hussey, the honorary secretary, to whose energy, a great deal of the success of the entertainment was due. Towards the close of the proceedings the Rev. Father Murphy, on behalf of the club for whose benefit the entertainment was given, returned thanks to the Dominican nuns, the Sisters of Mercy, and the Christian Brothers for the assistance rendered, and also to Mr. Instructor Smith for his valuable aid.

The railway authorities will give special facilities to the public to visit Dunedin during the forthcoming Agricultural Show and races on the 23rd and 24th inst. Excursion tickets to Dunedin will be issued from Lyttelton, Kingston, and intermediate stations from November 21 to November 23, and from Oamaru, Clinton, and intermediate stations, also on November 24, and by the morning train on the 25th. All tickets will be available for return up to and including December 4. Further particulars as to fares etc. will be found elsewhere in this issue.—*.*

MYERS AND CO., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street. They guarantee highest class work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth give general satisfaction, and the fact of them supplying a temporary denture while the gums are healing does away with the inconvenience of being months without teeth. They manufacture a single artificial tooth for Ten Shillings, and sets equally moderate. The administration of nitrous-oxide gas is also a great boon to those needing the extraction of a tooth. Read advertisement.—*.*

Friends at Court.

GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR.

(Written for the N.Z. TABLET.)

- November 19, Sunday.—Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost.
 „ 20, Monday.—St. Felix of Valois, Confessor, Pope, and Martyr.
 „ 21, Tuesday.—Feast of the Presentation of Blessed Virgin Mary.
 „ 22, Wednesday.—St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr.
 „ 23, Thursday.—St. Clement, Pope and Martyr.
 „ 24, Friday.—St. John of the Cross, Confessor.
 „ 25, Saturday.—St. Catherine, Virgin and Martyr.

ST. CATHERINE, VIRGIN AND MARTYR.

St. Catherine was a native of Alexandria in Egypt, a city which under the Roman Empire was renowned for its famous schools of philosophy. Born of a wealthy and noble family, she applied herself from her earliest years to the study of sacred and profane literature, and became illustrious among her fellow-citizens for her brilliant talents and profound knowledge. But what was still more admirable was her fervent piety and her love of chastity, which had already inspired her to consecrate her virginity to God.

It happened about this time that the Emperor Maximin II., a barbarous and cruel prince who had fixed the seat of his government at Alexandria, published an edict directed against the Christians, in which he ordered everyone under pain of death to assist at certain public sacrifices to the false gods of the Empire. Upon the publication of the Emperor's edict, Catherine employed herself in encouraging the wavering Christians, and exhorting them to suffer every evil rather than defile their souls with the impious sacrifices of the pagans. Not content with this, she was inspired by God to go boldly into the temple where the Emperor was engaged with his priests in offering sacrifices, and there in the midst of the assembled multitude to reproach him for his impiety and his cruel persecution of God's servants. Maximin, dissembling his rage, ordered her to be detained until the end of the ceremony, when he promised to listen to what she had to say in behalf of the religion which she professed. Upon his return to his palace the Emperor ordered Catherine to be brought before him, and reproached her for her audacious interruption of so sacred a function. The Holy Virgin at once entered into an eloquent defence of the Christian religion, showing clearly the vanity and absurdity of the idolatrous worship of the pagans. The Emperor, confounded at her arguments to which he was unable to reply, summoned to his palace fifty learned philosophers whom he charged with the task of refuting her. Catherine, encouraged by the vision of an angel, who promised to assist her and render her victorious in the combat, entered with a firm step and undaunted countenance into the public hall where the champions of paganism were already assembled in presence of the Emperor and a numerous audience.

One of the most eloquent of the champions of idolatry in opening the debate extolled in many words the worship of Apollo, god of the sun—that glorious orb which spreads light and warmth and joy throughout the universe; but Catherine had no difficulty in showing him that these effects were not due to the luminary itself, but to the great Creator who had made it out of nothing for the use and benefit of man. She then went on to speak in such glowing words of the admirable attributes of the Creator of all things, that her opponents with one voice proclaimed themselves Christians. Whereupon Maximin, transported with rage, ordered them to be put to death, a sentence which was at once carried into execution.

The fury of the tyrant was now directed against the holy virgin whose inspired wisdom had confounded the eloquence of the pagan schools. After many cruel torments, which she bore with invincible constancy, she was condemned to be beheaded, and thus by one stroke of the axe accomplished her glorious martyrdom. Her sacred relics were afterwards conveyed to the famous monastery on Mount Sinai, where they were preserved with great veneration for many ages.

ST. CLEMENT, POPE AND MARTYR.

St. Clement was a Jew by birth, and was converted to the Christian Faith by St. Peter or St. Paul. Having devoted himself to the sacred ministry he accompanied St. Paul on many of his apostolic journeys.

Coming to Rome in company of the Apostle of the Gentiles, St. Clement was raised by St. Peter to the Episcopal office, and it is probable that he acted as vicar or representative of that Apostle when he was engaged in visiting the distant churches. After the martyrdom of St. Peter, St. Linus succeeded to the Pontificate, and after him St. Cletus, but on the death of the latter, about A.D. 91, St. Clement was raised to the Apostolic Chair. An unfortunate schism breaking out at Corinth owing to the dissensions fomented by certain scheming and ambitious men, Clement addressed to the Corinthians a letter, which is still extant, and which is one of the most valuable documents of the early Church.

This letter of St. Clement was held in such esteem in the first ages that it was read publicly in the assemblies of the faithful for the instruction of the people, along with the epistles of the Apostles. There are also still existing two other letters of the same great Pontiff, in which the excellence of virginity and the means for preserving it are admirably set forth in language worthy of a disciple and companion of St. Paul. For nine years—and these for the most part years of cruel persecution—Clement governed the Church of God with singular zeal and prudence. Finally he was apprehended and banished to the Crimea, where after enduring many hardships and sufferings he was condemned, in hatred of the Faith, to be cast into the sea with an anchor attached to his neck.

This heroic Pontiff carried off the crown of martyrdom under the Emperor Trajan, A.D. 100.

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Irish News.

ANTRIM.—Harland and Wolff's Shipbuilding Yard.—The rumour that Messrs. Harland and Wolff, who have been trying, but without success, to get more accommodation for their works from the Belfast Harbour Board, are looking for a site for an auxiliary yard outside the northern capital, has caused a flutter among the citizens of that port. We can well imagine (writes the *Irish Weekly*) what would be the comments of the business men of Belfast if a similar Southern Board were caught pursuing such a stupid policy. But naturally those who cannot be induced to remove the beam from their own eye are always quick to detect the mote in that of their neighbour. The Harbour Commissioners must be purlined at present if they cannot see that by adopting cheese-paring methods with Messrs. Harland and Wolff they would be cutting off their nose to spite their face. It would be a grievous loss to the community if even a portion of the shipbuilding trade were removed elsewhere, and while quite agreeing that other interests should not be neglected, we would suggest that such a large source of wealth should, if necessary, get preferential treatment. The Cork Harbour Board has written to the great shipbuilding firm, drawing attention to the facilities which they would be prepared to grant for the establishment of branch yards near the city of the Lee. The Cork Harbour engineer (Mr. Price), in writing to Messrs. Harland and Wolff on the subject, points out that at Monkstown there are 240 acres of reclaimable land, and an area three times as large as that at present at the disposal of the firm in Belfast. This space could be easily filled in with dredge stuff or with material from the high ground around. The upper part of the creek would leave 60 acres unreclaimed, and this, he points out, could be utilized as a fresh water pond for supplies to the works and engines. In Monkstown Bay there is a fine run of three-quarters of a mile for the launching of ships, a facility of the greatest value to shipbuilders, not to be found in any port in the kingdom. Speaking on the general facilities of the harbour Mr. Price regards it as the best situated for the supply of coal and iron from Wales. In the vicinity of Monkstown there is ample room for the building of workmen's residences, a district which, he believes, would be very acceptable to the workmen. Men living at Queenstown could reach the works in a few minutes by steamer, while the Cork, Blackrock, and Passage Railway Company's extension railway would make the place accessible to Cork. There is an immense farming district around the harbour, which should render the farm produce cheap to the men engaged in the works; while the ample building accommodation should place house rent at a moderately low sum. House rent being low, Mr. Price is of the opinion that the wages of the men could be smaller than obtained in Glasgow without making it harder on the men to live. The Waterford people, too, have invited Messrs. Harland and Wolff to consider the claims of their port.

CORK.—Six Fishermen Drowned.—A sad accident, resulting in the drowning of six fishermen occurred at Dunmanus Bay, Skibbereen, on September 21. It appeared that about seven o'clock in the evening six men from the Kilerohane side of the bay were returning home after casting their nets. It was very wild at the time, a strong west wind blowing, and the sea was very choppy. The boat was under sail, and another boat returning from the fishing ground was not far off at the time. It is not known what occurred to the ill-fated craft, but in all probability she heeled over in a squall, as, it appears, she was carrying a good deal of sail. When the other boat arrived home, and their companions not turning up the crew became apprehensive, and after a time created an alarm. It was, however, too wild at the time to put to sea. The worst was, however, feared, and the next that was heard of the ill-fated boat was when she was washed ashore, bottom upwards. In the bottom of the boat were found the lifeless bodies of two brothers, named McCarthy, from Letter Lower, near Kilerohane. Both had their arms locked around one of the seats of the boat, and one of the unfortunate brothers was stripped of his shoes and coat as if he was about to attempt to save himself when he was overwhelmed by the angry waters. The names of the others who perished and whose bodies had not been recovered were McCarthy, Donovan, Spillane, and Charles Coughlan, all of Letter Lower, and young, unmarried men, with the exception, of Coughlan, who leaves a wife and twelve or thirteen children to mourn his untimely end. All are belonging to the small farmer-fisherman class, and were in poor circumstances, being the principal support of families.

DERRY.—Death of the Pastor of Ballinderry.—The death of the Rev. Hugh McCooley, P.F., Ballinderry, County Derry, has removed from the Irish priesthood one of its most conspicuous and devoted members. The popularity and esteem in which the deceased clergyman was held (says the *Irish Weekly*) were evidenced at all times, and from the day when he first entered the ministry to the time preceding his death he maintained the love and admiration of all who knew him. Not alone was this feeling observable amongst his immediate parishioners, but it extended beyond the confines of his parish, and wherever he went in the discharge of the duties of his sacred calling he never failed to make a favourable and lasting impression on the people. The poor and needy ever looked up to him and found in him a friend. Father McCooley was a native of the parish of Derrynoose, County Armagh, and at an early age entered St. Patrick's College, Armagh, where his superior talents soon brought him to the front, and after passing through a preliminary course there he went to Maynooth. Having finished a brilliant collegiate course in Maynooth, he was promoted to the Dunboyne establishment as a mark of appreciation of his erudition and piety. After spending three years there he was ordained a priest, and appointed to his first mission in the parish of Donaghmore, County Tyrone. The funeral took place on September 24,

when there was a large number of the clergy of the archdiocese of Armagh present. His Eminence Cardinal Logue performed the last solemn ceremonies of the Church.

DOWN.—Death of a Priest.—Much regret has been felt in the Killeavy district, County Down, at the death of the Rev. Father McElvogue, at a comparatively early age. The funeral was attended by Cardinal Logue and 70 priests of the northern archdiocese. His Eminence presided at the solemn office for the dead. The chief mourners were Messrs John McElvogue (father) and John Logue (brother-in-law), and a large number of the laity attended. The interment took place at Galtally, near Dungannon.

KERRY.—The Muckross Estate.—Sir Thomas Lipton told a New York interviewer that he had offered £50,000 for the Muckross estate for the purpose of presenting it to the Irish people, but that the amount was not considered sufficient by the sellers. The *Dublin Evening Telegraph* of a recent date states that it is in a position to announce that the Muckross estate, the sale of which has been the subject of so much discussion, and in connection with which many conjectures and rumours, all, as is now proved, erroneous, have been put forward as to alleged purchasers, is to be sold by public auction in Dublin in November. The well-known Dublin firm of auctioneers, Messrs. James H. North and Co., of Grafton street, have been selected to conduct the sale.

KILDARE.—An Interesting Excursion.—The annual excursion of the members of the Kildare Archaeological Society took place recently, the event proving one of the most successful yet held under the auspices of the Society. Of the excursion it may be said the promoters excelled themselves. The ordinary outings of the Kildare Society are always looked forward to with a pleasurable anticipation of an addition to the stock of knowledge combined with social intercourse of a high order. Rarely, if ever, has any outing of the Society had crowded into one day so much of antiquarian and archaeological interest, and never had the Society a larger or more appreciative attendance. From first to last the proceedings were brimful of interest. On assembling at Hazelhatch the party proceeded to visit the monument of Connolly, Speaker of the Irish House of Commons, where the Rev. Charles Graham delivered an address, thence visiting the Celbridge Abbey, where Sir Gerald Dease showed them the house of Vanessa, in which Swift passed many an hour and where in a later day Grattan lived. At 'St. Patrick's Chapel,' Ardross, Lord Walter Fitzgerald read a paper, and at Rathcoffey, the home of Hamilton Rowan, Father Devitt, S.J., told the story of the Wogans and their Castle, and recounted the thrilling escape of Hamilton Rowan through Clongowes in the days of '98. The portion of the day's excursion in which most interest was centred was a visit to the famous college of the Irish Jesuits, where for eighty-five years they have carried on the great work of higher Catholic education. The splendid old castle, with its circumjacent collegiate buildings and delightful surroundings captured the admiration of those who had visited Clongowes for the first time. On the invitation of the rector the entire party were entertained at luncheon, after which a suitable vote of thanks was proposed by the Earl of Mayo and seconded by Mr. Cooke Trench, for the hospitality bestowed and for the literary interest with which the Very Rev. M. Devitt, S.J., a vice-president of the Archaeological Society, had invested the day's proceedings. Subsequently the party adjourned to the imposing study hall of the college where Father Devitt read a learned and researchful paper on the history of the Castle of Clongowes Wood in the olden times. The excursionists then inspected the ruined Franciscan Abbey of Clane and other historic antiquities in the immediate neighbourhood. Afternoon tea was partaken of at Millicent House on the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Cooke Trench, which brought the pleasing and intellectual functions of the day to a close. Upwards of a hundred took part in the excursion.

Maynooth College Chapel.—A letter has been published from Cardinal Logue on behalf of the Irish Bishops strongly commending the appeal for funds to complete the Maynooth College Chapel. The following is part of the letter addressed by his Eminence to the President of Maynooth College:—'The Irish Bishops, at the time of the celebration of the College Centenary in the year 1895, in a public letter to their flocks, expressed their earnest wish that the tower and spire of our beautiful College Chapel should be completed as a fitting memorial of that great celebration, and at the same time as an enduring testimony of our thanksgiving to God for all that He has done for the Irish Church during the past one hundred years through the instrumentality of the College of Maynooth. Many generous contributions have since been given for the building of the tower, but still the amount so contributed is scarcely enough to pay for the first or lowest section of the tower. At the same time the Bishops have duly authorised you to proceed with the work; and in accordance with that resolution, we now rejoice to see that the work is actually in progress. But, if the work is to continue, money must be found to pay the builder. We are fully sensible of the generous spirit of self-sacrifice in which you have undertaken to collect money for this purpose, and we rejoice at the success that has hitherto attended your devoted labours. But we feel it our duty to help your efforts so far as we can at present, and we hereby formally sanction your holding, with the consent of the parish priest, a collection in each parish of our respective dioceses. We earnestly exhort both the clergy and the people to help you by their generous contributions to carry out your noble purpose, and we pray God to bless your efforts and to reward all those who will contribute to complete this national memorial to the glory of God, and the noble work that has been accomplished by the College of Maynooth for the Irish Church and the Irish people during the century now closing.'

LIMERICK.—Alleged Cause of Insanity.—At the Limerick Asylum Board attention was drawn to the startling

increase of lunacy, and Dr. O'Neill, R.M.S. agreed that the inordinate drinking of overdrawn tea tended to produce insanity.

LOUTH.—Clerical Change.—The Rev. Father McNeece left Dundalk about the end of September to take up the duties of his sacred ministry in Coalisland, Tyrone. During the time he was in Dundalk Father McNeece endeared himself to all classes by his many good qualities of head and heart. The members of the Catholic Young Men's Society, of which Father McNeece was spiritual director, made him a presentation.

TYRONE.—A Chapel for Asylum Patients.—At a recent meeting of the committee of management of the Omagh Lunatic Asylum it was unanimously resolved, on the motion of Mr. George Murnaghan, M.P., seconded by Mr. Jeremiah Jordan, M.P., that the new church be used exclusively for Catholic purposes. Heretofore, Catholic inmates have had to attend Catholic services under disabilities and in violation of the canons of the Church. It was pointed out that when the chapel for that institution was first attended by Catholic inmates the toleration for Catholics at that time was not as broad and as liberal as it is at present. The motion was supported by Mr. E. T. Herdman, D.L. and Mr. H. de F. Montgomery.

WATERFORD.—Presentation to a Christian Brother.—The Rev. Brother Nugent, who had for many years been in charge of the Christian Schools, Waterford, has been presented by the Sodality of Mary Immaculate with a portmanteau, rug, dressing case, etc., as tokens of regard on the occasion of his removal from Mount Zion.

WESTMEATH.—The National Flag in Mullingar.—A piece of stupid officialism, on the part of the High Sheriff, is reported from Mullingar. Captain Fulke Greville, who is High Sheriff for Westmeath and Tory member for one of the Bradford divisions, has been the offender. The members of the Westmeath County Council, of which Captain Greville's father, Lord Greville, D.L., is chairman, decided unanimously to erect a green flag over the county courthouse in Mullingar, which has been transferred to their care by the Local Government Act. The dashing Captain would not hear of it, and when the day arrived on which the flag was to be erected he had a *posse* of police stationed at the courthouse to prevent the councillors carrying out their avowed intention. A large crowd collected, and there was a desperate tussle between the police and civilians. At one time the minions of the law were successful, and at another the townspeople. The flag was captured and recaptured. It was then waved from the windows of the building amidst great applause. Eventually the police succeeded in retaking it. The people dispersed and held an indignation meeting, at which Captain Greville's arbitrary conduct was condemned. The result is that the Nationalist County Councils all over the country are taking the matter up, and in a short time, thanks to Captain the Hon. Greville, M.P., the green flag will be seen waving over nearly every county courthouse in Ireland. In justice to Lord Greville, father of the victorious Captain, it must be said that he boldly declared his readiness to sit under an Irish flag.

WICKLOW.—An Evicted Tenant Reinstated.—Mr William Bergin has been reinstated in his holding at Rathdrum, County Wicklow, from which he was evicted seven years ago, and the Land Commissioners will advance the money for the purchase of his farm.

GENERAL.

Postulants for the United States.—Nine young ladies, between the ages of 17 and 25 years, left Queenstown recently in the White Star steamer *Majestic* for New York, *en route* for San Antonio, Texas, with the object of entering on a religious life there. Four of them belong to Cork and five to Galway. They are in charge of Sister Margaret Mary, of the Sisters of Charity of the Order of the Holy Ghost. The Order has two houses in Texas, one in San Antonio and the other in Victoria. The nuns of this Order exclusively devote themselves to the religious and secular education of the negro and Aztec children. The Order has been established only 11 years, and has no branch houses in any other part of the United States.

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MR. P. LUNDON, Phoenix Chambers, Wanganui, is still busy putting people on the soil. He has also hotels in town and country For Sale and To Lease Write to him.—*.*

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Lyttelton Times says:—"Gawne and Co., the manufacturers, of George street, Dunedin, send us a sample of their Worcestershire Sauce, made like Lea and Perrin's "from the receipt of a country nobleman," who must have been a fastidious feeder, and Gawne and Co. must have got the same receipt, as their sauce is indistinguishable from the famous Lea and Perrin's. People who like a relish with their meats—and what man does not—should be grateful to that anonymous country nobleman for spending his time in experimenting to such good purpose.—*.*

A HISTORIC SPOT.

THE FIRST MASS IN AUSTRALIA.

THREE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

His Eminence Cardinal Moran had an unique experience on his return from Rockhampton, where he had assisted at the opening of the new Cathedral. On his way south (says the *Catholic Press*) he arrived at Gladstone, accompanied by all the other prelates, priests, and distinguished laymen who had been to Rockhampton. The Rev. Father Plormel and the citizens of Gladstone had made all arrangements for the entertainment of the party. An address was presented to the Cardinal on Auckland Hill, overlooking the harbour, and commanding one of the most charming views to be found on the Australian coast. It was here, about the dawn of the seventeenth century, that the first prayers of a Christian people ascended from the shores of Australia, and, curiously enough, the Cardinal in whose honour the gathering was held was the discoverer of the unquestionable fact that Port Curtis is the harbour of Holy Cross mentioned by the Spanish navigator, Admiral De Quiros, in his annals.

Among those present were the Right Rev. Dr. Murray (Bishop of Maitland), Right Rev. Dr. Corbett (Bishop of Sale), Right Rev. Dr. Doyle (Bishop of Grafton), Right Rev. Dr. Reville (Coadjutor-Bishop of Sandhurst), Hon. W. G. Grey, M.L.C., his Honour Judge Real, Mr. J. L. Blood-Smyth (Registrar Supreme Court), Mr. P. W. Crowe (Brisbane), Dr. and Mrs. McNeal, Mr. E. Parr-Smith.

The beautifully-illuminated framed address said, among other things:—

"The presence here of your Eminence, and of so many venerable prelates and devoted priests from all parts of our Continent, the object being to assist at the solemn opening of our Cathedral, awakens in our minds the remembrance of another celebration of similar import enacted on this spot 300 years ago. This is the harbour of Holy Cross of the Spanish Admiral De Quiros. There is the wide bay described in his narrative; there are the eternal mountains; you have crossed the rivers with their crystal waters glittering ever under our bright sky. The sturdy mariners landed where we stand—that was a great day for Australia. The little shrine is erected in honour of our Lady of Loretto; the royal standard of chivalrous Spain floats on high in the breeze that has swept among the smiling islands of the Pacific; the children of Catholic Spain kneel in front of the altar on the herbage that still clothes our hills, bending their heads low and striking their breasts in sentiments of religious awe, as the chiming of the little bell and the roar of the culverin announce to the prostrate multitude that the most Holy Sacrifice has sanctified a newly-discovered portion of the globe."

In the course of his reply the Cardinal-Archbishop said there were special features in connection with the spot on which they stood. The mind went back 300 years to the days when De Quiros landed there. The great commander set out with the special blessing of Pope Paul V., and special reference is made to this in the report which the Admiral furnished to the king. It was on the Feast of Pentecost, a pledge of the best gifts of heaven, that De Quiros landed in the great Southern land, and this it was that induced him to name the country *Tierra Austral de Espiritu Sancto*, and he trusted that every cherished wish of the early discoverer would be borne out. Some of our literary men hesitated to assign to the scene which lay before them, that it was the one marked out by De Quiros. It was only lately, however, that the officials had been published. He (the Cardinal) had the good fortune to secure a copy of the original Spanish despatch as well as a French translation of the originals published in 1616. De Quiros not only described the spacious bay and its surroundings, but also stated that its water would shelter the united navies of the world. The seven islands which sheltered the bay, with the special island, which he described as 50 leagues in circumference, were before them, and the report harmonised in every detail with the spot. He had just been informed that in 1875 Mr. Nesbitt, in reporting upon the harbour of Port Curtis to the Queensland Government, had stated that the harbour offered safe anchorage for 1000 of the largest vessels afloat. This was a wonderful confirmation of the remarks of De Quiros in his memorial to Philip III. of Spain. The one great point of argument made by the opponents was that the latitude and longitude set down did not correspond. But we know from what has been set down by the chaplains to the Spanish fleet that that was one of the arts of the Spanish Admirals. They purposely concealed the proper situations of land they had discovered lest Drake and his *confères* would follow in their tracks, and, except in Royal despatches, such details were not given correctly, in order that they might be the better secured for future Spanish explorations. Thus the discrepancy of latitude and longitude strengthens the opinions that Port Curtis is the Harbour of the Holy Cross. He sincerely congratulated the Catholics of Gladstone, and their fellow citizens, on the prominence which this place had played in the early history of Australia. Here for the first time the Mass has been celebrated on Australian soil almost 300 years ago. The Spanish troops had assembled, the royal banner of Spain was unfurled on this very spot, here the culverins had thundered a welcome, and the assembled chaplains of the fleet had invoked the blessing of Heaven upon the whole of Australia—a blessing which had already borne fruit as seen in the virtue, the enlightenment and devotion of the sons and daughters of the land. He was looking forward to the time when that blessing would be multiplied a hundredfold in our united Australia, and he hoped that the Federal Government would erect a monument here as a memorial of the most interesting religious and historical event in our history.

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Our Stock of British, Colonial and Foreign Tweeds, Suitings, Vestings, &c., is replete with all the Latest and most Up-to-date productions.

SUITS TO MEASURE from £3 3s.

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EDWARD THOMAS & CO.,

LARGEST EXPORTERS OF
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NO COMMISSION. In the Colony.

Cash Buyer of WOOL, SHEEPSKINS, HAIR, HIDES, etc.
Agents for the ALBERT CHURN (Patented)

BOND STREET, DUNEDIN.

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MR. T. J. COLLINS, DENTIST,

Has removed to new premises, immediately above the Union Bank of Australia, PRINCES STREET SOUTH, and directly opposite Brown, Ewing's.

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ENGINEERS, BLACKSMITHS, MILLWRIGHTS
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THAT YOUR BOOTS ARE BRANDED ON THE HEEL

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| <p>FIRST.
Boots with this Brand on the heel are Guaranteed to Fit and Wear Well.</p> | <p>SECOND.
On this Brand only the Very Best of Workmen are employed.</p> | <p>THIRD.
Only the Very Best of Materials are used in this Brand of Boots and Shoes.</p> | <p>FOURTH.
Farmers, Miners, and all who want to keep their feet dry, try this Brand.</p> | <p>FIFTH.
The "STANDARD" Brand Boots and Shoes are known from Auckland to the Bluff for sterling quality.</p> |
|---|---|---|---|--|

Commercial.

(For week ending November 16).

MR. J. A. CHAPMAN, Sharebroker, Dunedin, reports as follows:
BANKS.—National, from 2/12/6 to 2/13/0; New South Wales, from 39/0/0 to 40/0/0; Union of Australia, Ltd., 31/0/0 to 32/0/0; Bank of Australasia, 58/10/0 to 59/0/0.

INSURANCE.—National, from 17/3 to 17/6; New Zealand, 3/5/6 to 3/7/0; South British, 2/14/0 to 2/16/0; Standard, 13/6 to 14/0.

SHIPPING.—New Zealand Shipping, from 4/17/0 to 5/0/0; Union Steam, 10/7/6 to 10/12/0.

COAL.—Westport from 3/6/0 to 3/7/0.

LOAN AND AGENCY.—Commercial Property and Finance Company, from 5/0 to 5/6; National Mortgage, 17/0 to 17/6; Perpetual Trustees, 12/6 to 13/0; Trustees and Executors, 29/6 to 30/6.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Kaiapoi Woollen Co., from 6/5/0 to 6/6/0; Mornington Tramway, 16/0 to 16/6; Mosgiel Woollen, 4/4/0 to 4/5/0; New Zealand Drug, 2/12/0 to 2/13/0; New Zealand Drug, new issue, 1/18/6 to 1/19/0; Milburn Lime and Cement, 2/0/0 to 2/2/0; do., new issue, 1/0/0 to 1/0/6 (30/- paid); Otago Daily Times, 13/0/0 to 13/5/0; Ema Bay Railway, 12/0 to 12/9; Wellington Woollen, 5/0/0 to 5/2/6; Silverton Tram, 4/12/0 to 4/13/6; New Zealand Refrigerating, 1/16/6 to 1/17/6; Roslyn Tramway, 5/3 to 5/9.

GOLDFIELDS.—Reefton: Big River Extended, from 9/6 to 10/0; Keep-it-Dark, 24/6 to 25/6; Alpine Extended, 3/0 to 4/0; Croesus (Paparoe), 2/0 to 2/6.

DREDGING COMPANIES.—Chatto Creek, 57/0 to 58/0; Clyde, 55/0 to 57/0; Dunedin, 8/0 to 10/0; Empire, 3/17/0 to 4/0/0; Enterprise, 77/6 to 83/0; Evan's Flat, 37/0 to 38/0; Ettrick, 14/6 to 15/6 (paid up); Golden Gate, 116/0 to 118/0; Golden Beach, 25/0 to 27/0 (prem.); Golden Point, 38/6 to 41/0; Tuapeka, 39/0 to 40/0; Vincent, 51/0 to 58/0; Hartley and Riley, 7/11/0 to 7/13/6; Jutland Flat, 4/0 to 4/3 (contrib.); Macraes Flat, 8/0 to 10/0; Golden Run, 44/0 to 46/0; Golden Terrace, 13/0 to 15/0; Magnetic, 58/0 to 60/0; Matau, 80/0 to 85/0; Molyneux Hydraulic (B), 30/0 to 32/0; Nevis, 25/0 to 28/0; Otago, 1/19/0 to 2/0/0; Upper Waipori, 2/6 to 3/0; Waimumu, 26/0 to 27/0; Sunlight, 31/0 to 33/0; Cromwell, 58/0 to 59/0 (prem.); Riverbank, par.; Nil Desperandum, 30/0 to 31/0; Klondyke, 10/ to 12/; Waikaka Forks, 0/6 to 1/0 (prem.); Dunstan Leads, 15/9 to 16/6; Ophir, 10/0 to 11/0; Golden Gravel, 1/0 to 1/6; Dunstan Pioneer, 0/9 to 1/6; Golden Reward, 0/9 to 1/0.

SLUICING COMPANIES.—Moonlight (contrib.), 13/0 to 14/0; Roxburgh Amalgamated (contrib.), 6/9 to 7/0; Deep Stream, 22/0 to 23/0.

PRODUCE.

INVERCARGILL PRODUCE MARKET.

The Grain Brokers' Association report an unchanged market for oats. The quotations are:—A grade, 2s 1d; B grade, 2s; C grade, 1s 11d, f.o.b. (sacks in).

Invercargill prices current:—Wholesale: Butter, fresh, 6d; eggs, 7d per doz; cheese, farm, 34d; bacon, farm, 7d; do (rolled), farm, 6d; hams, 8d; potatoes, L1 10s per ton; barley, 2s to 2s 6d; fowl wheat, 2s; chaff, L2 per ton; flour, L8; oatmeal, L9 to L10; pollard, L3; bran, L2 10s, including bags. Retail—Fresh butter, 8d; eggs, 9d per doz; cheese, 6d; bacon, rolled, 8d, sliced, 9d; hams, 10d; potatoes, 2s per cwt; flour, 200lb, 15s; 50lb, 4s 3d; oatmeal, 50lb, 5s; 25lb, 2s 9d; pollard, 5s 9d per bag; bran, 3s 6d per bag; chaff, L2 10s per ton; fowls' feed, 2s 3d per bushel.

According to a North Island newspaper, a Hastings farmer who some time ago shipped a large quantity of potatoes to the Cape is thoroughly satisfied with the market there. After paying expenses, which amounted to L7 per ton, he had a clear profit of L18 per ton. He netted nearly L1000 on the transaction.

London, November 7.—Wheat: Mark Lane is dull, and prices are 6d lower on the week.

The total quantity of wheat and flour afloat for the United Kingdom is 1,800,000 quarters, and for the Continent 1,150,000 quarters.

London, November 10.—The wheat market is dull, and there is little doing. Australian parcels afloat are quoted at 28s 9d. The American visible supply of wheat is 77,200,000 bushels.

Butter: Forced sales and the large quantity of Australian in store have depressed the market. Choicest colonial is quoted at 102s, a few best lots realising 104s; Danish, 112s.

Lower prices are stimulating the demand for rabbits. Colonial are flat at 1s 64d.

London, November 12.—Frozen Mutton: Both New Zealand and River Plate remain unchanged. Lamb: Prime is unchanged; fair average (including Dunedin, Southland, Wellington, and secondary Canterbury), 3 5-16d.

The Agent-General cables as follows:—Butter, 100s. The market is unfavourable. No alteration in cheese market since last week.

THE EXPORT OF PRODUCE.

The value of produce exported from the Colony for the month of October was:—Butter, L36,039, as compared with L15,112 for the corresponding month of last year; cheese, L2603 as against L3057; beef, L16,982, as against L8854; mutton, L117,306, as against L52,670; lamb, L892, as against L638. From Dunedin 228cwt of butter, 230cwt of cheese, 11,522 carcasses mutton, and 165 lambs were shipped.

BUTTER AND CHEESE FACTORIES.

The difference in the progress of the North Island and South Island respectively in the dairy trade (says the *New Zealand Times*) is very striking. The following figures are drawn from official sources, and represent the number of factories, creameries, and skimming stations in the two islands as on the 1st October in the last three years, and the value of the exports of butter and cheese for 12-monthly periods ending with the 30th June:—

NORTH ISLAND.

	Factories and Creameries	Skimming Stations	Value of Exports
1897	125	86	£370,467
1898	143	110	414,884
1899	158	133	465,707

SOUTH ISLAND.

	Factories and Creameries	Skimming Stations	Value of Exports
1897	74	29	138,018
1898	79	36	125,311
1899	75	38	112,771

Messrs. Donald Reid and Co. report as follows:—

OATS.—Those offered to-day were mostly good, sound feed lines, suitable for shipment or for local use. There was a limited attendance of buyers, and, with the exception of a few lots which were quitted at prices equal to late quotations, the bulk of the offering was passed in. We quote: Prime milling, 1s 10d to 1s 11d; good to best feed, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; medium, 1s 8d to 1s 9d per bushel (sacks extra.)

WHEAT.—The market for prime milling continues quiet, at about late quotations. We catalogued several lots of medium to good fowl wheat, which sold at: For good whole fowl wheat, 2s 4d to 2s 5d; broken and damaged, 2s to 2s 3d per bushel (sacks in).

POTATOES.—Heavier supplies have come forward, and, in view of the quantity offering, prices to-day suffered a decline. Best Derwents sold at 22s 6d to 27s 6d; others, to 20s per ton (sacks in).

The Waverley Bicycle.

Send for beautiful illustrated Catalogue and learn all about this handsome and easy-running wheel.

WAVERLEY CYCLE DEPOT, 217 Colombo St., Christchurch and John Orr and Co., Ashburton.

"Tested Seeds." New Supplies.

HOWDEN AND MONCRIEFF,
SEEDSMEN AND NURSERYMEN,
51 PRINCES STREET, DUNEDIN.

Grass Seeds—Ryegrasses, machine dressed, off old pasture.
Italian Ryegrass. Cocksfoot. Chewing's Fescue.
Timothy.

Clovers—Cowgrass, Colonial and Imported. White. Red. Aleyke.
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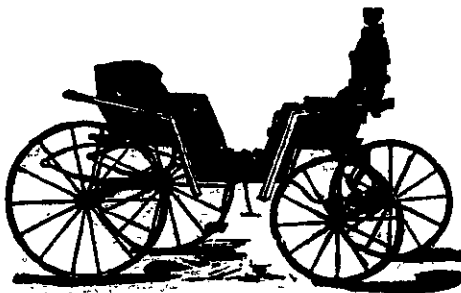
Turnip Seeds—*Swedes*: Champion. Elephant. Monarch.
Webb's Imperial. Tait's Best of All. Webb's
Giant King. *Yellows*: Aberdeen Green Top.
Aberdeen Purple Top. Romney Marsh (our strain
gave very great satisfaction last Season). Fosterton
Hybrid. *Whites*: Devon Greystone. Lincoln
Red Globe.

— Samples and Prices on Application. —

DUNEDIN CARRIAGE FACTORY,

Princes street South, Dunedin.

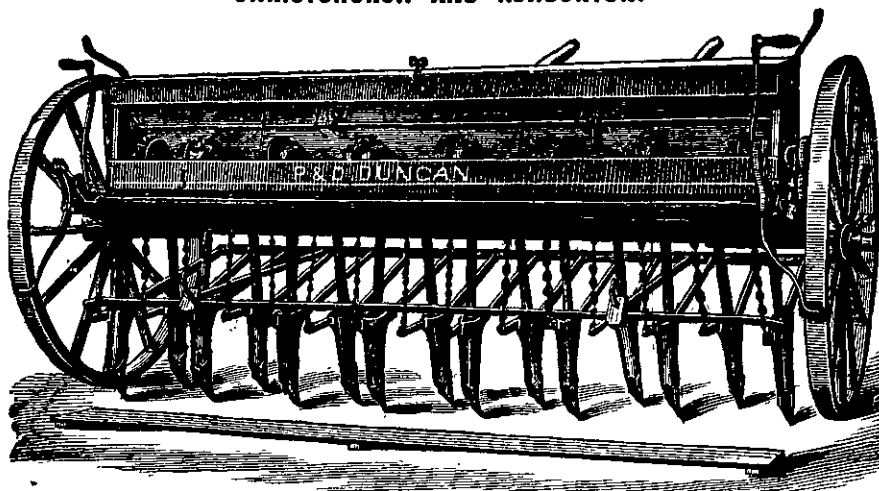
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Have now on hand
Single and Double
Buggies, Station
Waggons, Waggon-
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Carts, etc. First
award for Carriages
at New Zealand and
South Seas Exhibi-
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AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS,
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Manufacturers of Agricultural Implements and Machinery, sole manufacturers of
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Cultivator, with Seeder Attachment; Duncan's Patent Disc Harrows; Duncan's
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A BICYCLE of HONEST VALUE.

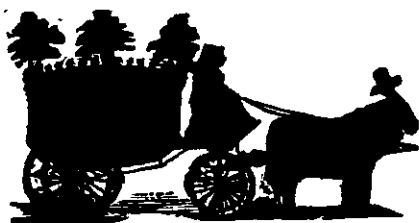
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WESTPORT COAL COMPANY

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HEAD OFFICE: DUNEDIN.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES THROUGHOUT
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The Company's celebrated COALBROOK-
DALE COAL is the Best House, Steam, and
Gas Coal in the Southern Hemisphere.

It is used by all the principal Steam
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Gas Works in the Colony.

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**UNION STEAM SHIP
COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND
LIMITED**

Steamers will be despatched as under
(weather and other circumstances
permitting):

LYTTELTON and WELLINGTON—

Waikare	Thurs., Nov. 16	2 p.m. D'din
Te Anau	Fri., Nov. 17	3 p.m. D'din

NAPIER, GISBORNE and AUCKLAND—

Te Anau	Fri., Nov. 17	3 p.m. D'din
Mararoa	Tues., Nov. 28	2.30 p.m. tr'n

SYDNEY, via WELLINGTON—

Waikare	Thurs., Nov. 16	2 p.m. D'din
Mokoia	Thurs., Nov. 28	2.30 p.m. tr'n

SYDNEY via AUCKLAND—

Mararoa	Tues., Nov. 28	2.30 p.m. tr'n
Waihora	Tues., Dec. 12	3 p.m. D'din

MELBOURNE via BLUFF and HOBART—

Talune	Mon., Nov. 20	4 p.m. D'din
Monowai	Mon., Nov. 27	2.30 p.m. tr'n

**WESTPORT, via OAMARU, TIMARU,
AKAROA, LYTTELTON & WELLINGTON.**

Cargo only.

Corinna †	Fri., Nov. 17	4 p.m. D'din
Taupo ‡	Thurs., Nov. 23	4 p.m. D'din

* New Plymouth and via Greymouth.

† Calls Nelson when required.

TAHITI and RARATONGA—

Ovalau	Tues., Nov. 21	From Auckland
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FIJI (SUVA and LEVUKA)—

Taviuni	Wed., Dec. 6	From Auckland
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BAKER BROTHERS,
FURNISHING UNDERTAKERS,

Direct Importers of Best and Latest
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FUNERALS Conducted with the
greatest Care and Satisfaction, at most
Reasonable Charges.

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Factory.

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THE BAZAAR (next Wilson Bros.),

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FANCY GOODS IMPORTER, FRUITERER,
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Picture Framing on Shortest Notice.

The best assorted stock of Fancy Goods,
Confectionery, &c., in South Canterbury.

"DEAR ME!

I've forgotten that **SYMINGTON COFFEE ESSENCE**, whatever shall I do? Call at the next
Store you pass; they All Keep it."

CHAFF—The market is fully supplied, and even at reduced prices sales are difficult to effect. We submitted a full catalogue, but, as prices did not reach our valuations, the bulk was passed in. We quote: Best oaten sheaf, L2 10s to L2 15s; medium to good, L2 to L2 7s 6d per ton (bags extra).

Messrs. Stronach Bros. and Morris report as follows:—

WHEAT—There has been a fair demand during the week and prices remain firm. Prime milling, 2s 8d to 2s 9d; medium, 2s 6d to 2s 7½d; fowl wheat, 2s 1d to 2s 5d per bushel (sacks in).

OATS—Market unchanged. Milling, 1s 11d; good to best feed, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; medium, 1s 7½d to 1s 8½d per bushel (sacks extra).

CHAFF—Market over supplied and prices easier. Prime oaten sheaf, L2 12s 6d to L2 15s; medium, L2 5s to L2 10s per ton (bags extra).

POTATOES—Prices slightly easier. Best Derwents, 22s 6d to 27s 6d per ton (bags in).

Mr. F. MEENAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale price only—Oats: Quiet. Feeding, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; milling, 1s 10d. Wheat: milling, 2s 6d to 2s 9d; fowls' wheat, 2s 2d to 2s 5d. Hay: ryegrass and clover, best, L3 5s. Straw: pressed, 22s; loose, 23s. Bran: L3. Pollard: L3 5s. Flour: L7 to L7 10s. Butter: best brands factory, 10d to 11d; dairy, 6d to 8d. Oatmeal: L10. Potatoes: well picked, good sample, 27s 6d; old stock from 1s per bag to L1 per ton. Chaff: much easier demand; L2 5s to L2 15s.

AUSTRALIAN COMMERCIAL.

Sydney, November 8.—Wheat: Chick, 2s 8d to 2s 9d; milling, 3s to 3s 1d. Flour, L7 to L7 10s. Oats—Feeding: New Zealand 2s to 2s 3d; Tasmanian, 1s 11d to 2s 1d; Barley: Cape, 2s 3d to 2s 5d; English, 2s 3d to 2s 6d. Maize (weaker), 3s 2d. Peas: Prussian blue, 3s 3d to 3s 6d. Bran and pollard, 8d. Potatoes: Circular Heads, L2 10s to L2 15s; New Zealand Derwents, L1 5s to L1 10s. Onions: Prime American, L5; Victorian, L3; Butter: Dairy, 8½d to 9d; factory, 10d. Cheese: Large, 4½d to 5d; loaf, 4½d to 5½d. Bacon, 5½d to 7d.

The above quotations are those ruling between merchant and retailer, and do not represent the slightly lower values obtained by recognised brokers.

Melbourne, November 8.—Wheat (firm), 3s. Oats (good demand): Algerian, 1s 9½d; stout, 1s 11d to 2s. Maize, 2s 11d to 3s. Bran and pollard, 8½d to 9d. Potatoes, L1 to L1 15s. Onions, L2 10s to L3.

Adelaide, November 8.—The wheat market is dull. Flour, L7 5s to L7 10s. Oats: Dun and Algerian, 1s 10d to 2s; stout, 2s 6d. Bran and pollard, 9d to 9½d.

LIVE STOCK.

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

Messrs. Wright, Stephenson, and Co. report as follows:—

The entries for Saturday's sale comprised horses of all classes, among which were some very nice light harness horses and spring-cart sorts. There was a moderate attendance of buyers, and bidding was brisk for all those showing quality and where the ages were right. Altogether quite a number of harness horses changed hands at satisfactory prices. Draught horses continue to attract a large amount of attention whenever good sorts are forthcoming. For useful farm horses, and for those suitable for heavy town work there is a splendid inquiry. Consignments of spring van horses are also wanted, and in this market would sell well. We quote:—First-class young draught mares and geldings at from L45 to L50; good do, L40 to L45; medium, L34 to L38; aged, L20 to L30; upstanding young and sound spring carters at from L25 to L30; good do, L21 to L25; aged, L17 to L20; upstanding young carriage horses, suitable for pairs, at from L20 to L25; good do, L17 to L20; medium do and hacks, L12 to L16; ordinary station and shepherd's hacks, L10 to L12; aged but sound hacks, L7 to L9; inferior and weedy sorts, L2 to L5.

WOOL, SKINS, TALLOW, ETC.

Messrs. Stronach Bros. and Morris report as follows:—

RABBITSKINS—Market slightly firmer. Winters, 1s 4d to 1s 6d; second do, 1s 1d to 1s 3½d; blacks, up to 1s 11d per lb.

SHEEPSKINS—Market very firm and prices unchanged.

HIDES—In good demand. Prime heavy ox, 3½d to 4½d; medium, 3d to 3½d; light and inferior, 1½d to 2½d per lb.

TALLOW—Market steady. Best rendered mutton, 15s 6d to 17s; medium, 13s to 15s; rough fat, 10s 6d to 12s per cwt.

Sydney, November 8.—At the wool sales there was strong competition. Scoured sold up to 29½d; greasy, 18½d. These are record prices.

London, November 10.—The Bradford wool market is very firm. Common sixties, 29d; super, 30½d. In the London market there is a brisk demand, and a 10 per cent. advance on prices current at the closing of the October series.

London, November 8.—At the tallow sales 1950 casks were offered and 825 sold. Mutton: Fine, 28s 6d; medium, 26s 6d. Reef: Fine, 27s 6d; medium, 26s 3d.

GOLD EXPORT.

The value of gold exported from the Colony during the September quarter of 1899 was £361,384, as compared with £254,031 for the corresponding quarter of last year. Comparing the two quarters, the Otago district shows an increase of £73,594. Auckland retains the leading position in the gold export, its figures for the September quarter being £156,311, as against Otago's £121,223.

THE WEEK'S DREDGING RETURNS.

During the week ended Monday, 13th inst. (says the *Otago Daily Times*) returns were reported from the following 27 dredges, the total yield being 652oz 14dwt 17gr. or an average yield of 24oz per dredge:—

Electric (Cromwell), 84oz; Magnetic (Cromwell), 5 days 16 hours, 55oz; Manorburn (Manuherikia), 116 hours, 37oz 10dwt; Matau (Clyde), 37oz; Empire (Waipori), 31oz 10dwt 15gr; Golden Gate (Island Block), 4 days, 29oz 12dwt; Enterprise (Alexandra), 128 hours, 27oz 2dwt 9gr; Nil Desperandum (Manuherikia), 27oz; Clyde (Alexandra), 27oz; Inch Valley (near Palmerston), 130 hours, 25oz; Success (Waipori), 140 hours, 24oz 7dwt 12gr; Golden Terrace (Lower Shotover), 22oz 5dwt 2gr; Golden Treasure (Miller's Flat), 21oz; Upper Waipori (Waipori), 130 hours, 20oz 1dwt; Morning Star (Manuherikia), 127 hours, 19oz; Jutland Flat (Waipori), 108 hours, 18oz; Waimumu (near Gore), 128 hours, 18oz; Evans Flat (Tuapeka), 17oz 11dwt; Bengerburn, 16oz 5dwt; Alpine (Riley's Beach, Cromwell), 16oz; Chatto Creek (Manuherikia), 14oz; Otago (Miller's Flat), 12oz; Mount Ida (Kyebrun), 130 hours, 11oz 14dwt; Tuapeka (Tuapeka Flat), 118 hours, 11oz 14dwt; Galtee More (Manuherikia), 11oz; Ophir (Blacks), 85 hours, 10oz 2dwt 3gr; Maori (Lowburn, Clutha), 9oz. Total, 652oz 14dwt 17gr.

LATE BURNSIDE STOCK REPORT.

(Per special favour Messrs. Stronach Bros. and Morris.)

Wednesday, 5 p.m.

FAT CATTLE—197 yarded, prices being slightly easier. Best bullocks, L7 to L8 10s; medium, L5 5s to L6 15s; best cows, L5 to L6 10s; medium, L8 10s to L4 15s.

SHEEP—1625 penned. Prices unchanged. Best crossbred wethers, 17s to 18s 6d; extra prime, 21s; medium, 15s to 16s 6d; best ewes, 14s 6d to 15s 9d; medium, 13s 6d to 14s 3d.

LAMBS—341 penned. No alteration in prices. Best lambs, 11s 6d to 13s; medium, 10s to 11s.

PIGS—100 forward. Suckers, 11s to 15s; slips, 16s to 21s; stores, 22s to 25s; porkers, 29s to 36s; baconers, 40s to 46s 6d.

THE PARTITION OF THE SAMOAN GROUP.

A CABLE message received towards the end of last week announced that an important agreement had been come to between Great Britain and Germany with regard to Samoa. Great Britain renounces the islands of Upolu and Savaii in favour of Germany, and Tutuila in favour of America; while Germany renounces in Great Britain's favour her rights in Tonga, Vavan, and the Savage Islands, and transfers to Great Britain the Solomon Islands situated east and south-east of Bougainville and Buka Islands. She also divides with Great Britain the neutral zone in the Gold Coast hinterland and Sydney East hinterland.

Under the division of territory of the Gold Coast neutral zone Great Britain retains Gambara and Mamprusi, Germany Yendi and Chakosi. It is also provided that Germany shall renounce her extra territorial jurisdiction over the Protectorate of Zanzibar.

The German and American newspapers express themselves satisfied with the arrangements, whilst the British Press approve of the partition and exchanges, on the supposition that the Governments of the various Australasian colonies had been consulted before the arrangements had been completed. It is very doubtful if this had been done, as none of the Premiers admit having received any communication regarding the partition until the details were all settled. The Colonial Office has evidently ignored the colonies in the matter, a somewhat peculiar action so soon after the despatch of troops for South Africa. The main object gained, according to the opinions of leading English newspapers, is that the agreement removes all cause of friction with Germany.

The Premier of New South Wales has declined to express an opinion on the agreement. Mr. Reid, the late Premier, states that his Government had not been consulted on the matter. He could not see any very pressing reasons why the bargain was come to. The Sydney *Morning Herald* considers that so sudden and complete a transfer of political power in the Pacific will come as a disappointment to a large number of Australians.

The Right Hon. R. Seddon was interviewed regarding the matter in Christchurch on Saturday, and when asked if his Government had been consulted, and if so had it acquiesced, he replied that he had only seen the matter referred to in the newspapers. He was not prepared to answer any questions at present, but as soon as he returned to Wellington a Cabinet meeting would be held to consider it. In the meantime the Government would maintain a tentative attitude.

It is expected that the '98 Memorial monument in Sydney will be ready for unveiling about the end of the year. Dr. McCarthy states that all the marble for the structure has arrived from Italy, and that about two months hence the monument will be ready for unveiling. The exact date, however, has not been fixed. All the panels have been modelled by Dr. McCarthy. The last one finished is 'Our Last Hill,' which depicts the scene after the battle, the faces of the '98 men elated with victory, those of the West Cork Britons downcast with disappointment and terror.

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DUNEDIN CITY ELECTION.

MR. J. F. ARNOLD requests the Electors of the City to Meet him at the under-mentioned places :—

PRESBYTERIAN HALL, MORNINGTON—FRIDAY, 17th November.

OLD KNOX CHURCH—MONDAY, 20th November.

PINE HILL—Schoolhouse, WEDNESDAY, 22nd November.

WALKER STREET—Mission Hall, THURSDAY, 23rd November.

RUSSELL STREET—Mission Hall, FRIDAY, 24th November.

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DUNEDIN SHOW, NOVEMBER 23 AND 24.

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Mr. A. R. BARCLAY will ADDRESS the ELECTORS as follows :—

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DUNEDIN CITY ELECTORATE.

MR. J. A. MILLAR requests the Electors of the City to Meet him at the under-mentioned places :—

MAORI HILL—Council Chambers, FRIDAY, 17th November.

ROSLYN—St. John's Hall, MONDAY, 20th November.

NORTH-EAST VALLEY—Public Hall, WEDNESDAY, 22nd November.

MORNINGTON—Presbyterian Hall, FRIDAY, 24th November.

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The New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1899.

THE CHURCH AND THE SOLDIER.



IT is difficult for the lay mind, and probably not easy for the military mind, to perceive what LECKY terms the 'moral grandeur' of war. Whatever of moral grandeur there may be in war lies in its motives or in the heroic self-sacrifice of its votaries. But in the mere fact and art of wholesale man-butchering in the open-air shambles known as battle-fields the element of moral grandeur, as understood in Christian ethics, is to be sought for, if at all, with the search-light

and the microscope. LECKY'S idea is a distinctively pagan one. To the imagination of ancient Greece and Rome the slaughter of enemies—prisoners of war included—was a cult. The soldier was, in their minds, the highest type of human excellence. And among the Greeks it was a maxim that the most acceptable gifts that could be offered on the altars of the gods were the trophies won from an enemy in battle. When a Roman general succeeded in hacking the soul out of the general of an enemy, the spoils taken by the victor from his fallen foe were dedicated by solemn rite and hung up in the temple of JUPITER FERETRIUS. The pagan northern tribes that at one time almost succeeded in erasing Roman civilisation from central Europe, believed that the gates of Walhalla stood ever wide open to welcome the warrior who presented himself stained and splashed with the blood of his vanquished enemies. Mohammedanism overlaid the fanaticism of the devotee with the passion of the soldier. It made the conquest of the 'infidel' its first duty, and offered its sensuous heaven as a reward for the valiant fighter. When the pagan Irish warrior of old passed away, his body was consigned to perpendicular burial, so that even in death his sightless skeleton would stand ever upright and face the foe. And LECKY tells, on the authority of an old Irish manuscript, how, after the introduction of Christianity into Ireland, a king of Ulster, on his death-bed, charged his son never to join the Christians, who lay prostrate in death, but to be buried 'standing upright like a man in battle, with his face turned for ever to the south, defying the men of Leinster.'

Christianity came with higher ideas and nobler ideals. To the pagan world the ideal man was the conquering soldier. The Christian ideal was the swordless saint—the man who was in thought and word and work after God's own heart. Such an ideal was possible only to a society that had learned the true end of man and read the grand secret of the wherefore and the whither of human existence. The Church abolished the cruel gladiatorial combats and thereby saved tens of thousands of captives from the edge of the sword and the fangs and claws of lions and tigers. She could not abolish war, but she discouraged it; she stripped it of its plumes and frills and gilding and set a stigma upon it. When the defence of public right called for war she rather condoned than consecrated it; and, says LECKY, 'whatever might be the case with a few isolated prelates, the Church did nothing to increase or encourage it.' From the earliest days no weapons were permitted within the sacred walls of her churches; no cleric was—or is to this hour—allowed to bear arms; and for a time soldiers returning from even the most righteous war were not admitted to Holy Communion until after a period of penance and purification. The calling of the soldier was not, of course, regarded as sinful. Many early Christians joined the ranks of the pagan Roman army without sacrificing their Church membership, and the Theban Legion and the Thundering Legion are famed in story for their valourous defence of the interests of the Empire. In the days of the Emperor CONSTANTINE a council held at Arles condemned soldiers who, through religious motives, deserted their colours; and (says LECKY) 'St. AUGUSTINE threw his great influence into the same scale.' But the calling was distinctly discouraged, partly through the new feeling as to the high value and enormous possibilities of human life, partly through the moral—or rather immoral—atmosphere of camp and barrack life in those days, and partly, no doubt, to the unexpressed or half-expressed hope of the coming of a perpetual peace which would aid in the spread of God's kingdom upon earth.

Two chief occasions, however, arose in the history of the Church when, in the interests of civilisation and of religion, she had to lean upon the military arm. One was in the days when the northern hordes had swooped down upon central and southern Europe, and there arose that conflict of races and paralysis of all government which followed the fall of the Roman Empire. The other occasion came when the Mohammedans had almost extirpated Christianity from its original home, swept the old civilisation out of a great part of Spain, and threatened to raise the crescent and trample the cross under foot over the whole of central and southern Europe. At a time when the power of resistance to their fierce inroads was paralysed

by widespread panic, the voice of the Popes alone was raised to secure unity in the distracted councils of Christian States and to erect something like an effective barrier against the wave of Saracen invasion that flowed and kept ever flowing from the east. Through their efforts a limit was at last set to the Saracen incursions, and with their blessing the Crusaders carried the war time and again into the enemy's country. Those were the times that witnessed the rise of those beam-ideals of the Christian soldier—the knights of the Crusades and of the days of chivalry, such as live to us again in the pages of SCOTT and in the quaint old romances of MDLLE. DE SCUDERY. Some of the religious Orders which arose at those troubled periods blended the character of the ascetic with that of the warrior, and, says LECKY, 'when, at the hour of sunset, the soldier knelt down to pray before the cross, that cross was the handle of his sword.' Many of the Crusaders, it is true, fell far below the Church's conception of the ideal warrior. But, none the less, we find in that stormy period the noblest type of Christian soldier that ever struck a blow for faith or country. These were, however, exceptional and abnormal periods in the Church's history. She blessed not so much the sword of the warrior as the sacred cause for which he fought, and the temporary clasping of her gloved hand with the mailed fist of the soldier was not, as LECKY points out, an expedient that suited her pacific nature, but a policy forced upon her 'by the terrors and the example of Mohammedanism.'

The endless private wars of the middle age were to a considerable extent repressed by the influence of the Church. She found a leverage on the quarrelsome kings and kinglets and rival nobles of the time in the canonical 'Truce of God.' Under the severest ecclesiastical penalties—including the fearful punishment of interdict—all violence was prohibited from Wednesday evening of one week to Monday morning of the next. This Truce was enforced in France, Italy, England, and other countries chiefly in the eleventh and twelfth centuries. It was a mighty conquest over the rampant violence of the times. Its rigid enforcement in France in the early part of the eleventh century prepared the way for the introduction of the 'Peace of God' in the year 1041. This, in turn, forbade, under the severest ecclesiastical penalties, all acts of armed violence from Thursday to Sunday in each week; from Advent through Christmas-tide till after the octave of the Epiphany; during Lent and the Easter-cycle until after the octave of Pentecost; and on every feast day throughout the year. When duelling arose the Church also set her face as hard as flint against it. She put an end to the once universal practice of slaughtering or enslaving prisoners of war without consideration of age or sex; her creation of a new and nobler soldierly ideal in the knighthood of the crusades and chivalry—by a fusion of military and religious feeling—softened in a thousand gentle ways the old-time asperities of campaigning; and, in the persons of the Spanish theologians FRANCISCO DE VICTORIA and AYALA and other ecclesiastical writers, she laid the foundations of the modern code of international war-law which has extracted many a heart-breaking horror from the modern siege and field of battle.

BURNING OF CONVENT SCHOOL, LOWER HUTT.

THROUGH the courtesy of the *Evening Star* we learn with regret that the Convent School of the Sisters of Mercy at the Lower Hutt was burned down on Tuesday night, the cause being a defective chimney. The loss is set down at £250 over the amount of the insurance.

Mr. A. R. Barclay will address the electors of Dunedin at Pine Hill Schoolhouse on the 17th inst.; Upper Junction Schoolhouse, 20th November.—**

Mr. J. F. Arnold requests the electors of the City of Dunedin to meet him at the Presbyterian Hall, Mornington, on November 17; Old Knox Church, November 20; Pine Hill, November 22.—**

Mr. R. Chisholm, one of the candidates for the Dunedin Mayoralty, solicits the votes of the burgesses, and expresses himself as opposed to any further increase of rates.—**

Addresses to the electors of Dunedin City will be delivered by Mr. J. A. Miller as follows:—Council Chambers, Maori Hill, November 17; St. John's Hall, Roslyn, November 20; Public Hall, N.E. Valley, November 22.—**

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DIocese OF DUNEDIN.

The Very Rev. Father Brown, S.J., will open a retreat in St. Patrick's Basilica, Oamaru, on Sunday next.

The retreat for the men of St. Joseph's Cathedral parish, conducted by the Very Rev. Father Brown, S.J., was brought to a close on Sunday evening at Vespers.

Mr. Donlan of Lawrence, who left a few months ago for a trip to the Home countries, returned last week, reaching Dunedin on Thursday. Mr. Donlan looks remarkably well after his travels, and we understand he thoroughly enjoyed his too short stay in Ireland. During the course of his travelling in the land of his birth he met the Very Rev. Dean O'Leary, who had at the time completed an extensive bicycle tour along the West Coast of Ireland. Mr. Donlan reports as having benefited very much by his trip and his sojourn in Ireland.

The *fin de siècle* carnival, in aid of the Catholic church funds, was opened at Port Chalmers on last evening. There was a very large attendance, and the enthusiasm and business-like manner in which the stallholders began to dispose of their wares augured well for the success of the undertaking. The building was very nicely decorated, and when the carnival was in full swing the scene was an animated and pretty one. The stalls were loaded with goods of all kinds, some useful, some artistic, and all of a superior class. The proceedings will not consist entirely of business, as on each evening during the continuance of the carnival a special programme of entertainment will be presented. Among the attractions for this week will be a performance by the distinguished violinist, Signor Squarise, of Dunedin, with piano accompaniment by Miss Moloney. This will be the Signor's first performance in Port Chalmers and will, undoubtedly, prove a great attraction to the frequenters of the bazaar. A full account of the carnival will appear in our next issue.

DEATH OF A VENERABLE PRIEST.

VERY REV. FATHER O'HARA, OF OTAHUHU.

(By telegraph, from our AUCKLAND correspondent.)

GENERAL and profound regret was felt last Saturday morning amongst the Catholics of this city on receipt of the news of the death of the Very Rev. Father O'Hara, which occurred on Friday evening at Otahuhu. Father O'Hara was born at Collowney, Sligo, Ireland, in the year 1814, and read his theological course at All Hallows College, being contemporary there with the late lamented Dr. McDonald. He was ordained in 1863 for the Auckland diocese, but he remained for a short period in the Lancashire district. He arrived in Auckland in 1865, being sent immediately to the mission at Rangiaohia, Waikato, then a most troublesome district owing to the Maori war, during which he acted as chaplain to the forces. He was transferred thence to the curacy of St. Patrick's, Auckland, under Dr. McDonald, Vicar-General. Whilst there he built St. John's Church, Parnell. He was subsequently appointed parish priest of Otahuhu in succession to Father Garavel, who died in Sydney. When the Most Rev. Dr. Gould, Archbishop of Melbourne, was appointed Administrator of the Auckland diocese, he selected Father O'Hara as Administrator of St. Patrick's Cathedral, and also Chairman of the Board to administer the affairs of the diocese. Shortly after the illustrious Dr. Croke's arrival in Auckland Father O'Hara returned to Otahuhu, where he remained ever since. In 1886 he was appointed irremovable rector. For years he was one of the diocesan consultors, a position which he resigned quite recently in consequence of physical infirmity. He made periodical visits to Kaipara, and erected a church at Mangawhare and another at Papakura in his own parish. Since his arrival in the diocese he never left it. He gave the Very Rev. Dean O'Reilly his first Latin lessons, and assisted at the Dean's ordination and at his first Mass at Otahuhu on February 25, 1866. Father O'Hara was comforted in his last moments by his sister (in religion Sister Mary Teresa, of the Convent, Ponsonby) and a nephew (Father O'Hara) who has been his curate during the last eleven months. Needless to say his last moments were holy and happy. On Monday morning at the Otahuhu Church the Office for the Dead was recited at 10 o'clock, after which a Solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated by Dean O'Reilly, Father Golden being deacon, Father Buckley sub-deacon, and Father Purton master of ceremonies. The Very Rev. Dr. Egan presided at the organ, and the choir, composed of the Very Rev. Father Lightheart, and Rev. Fathers Kehoe and Darby, sang appropriate music. There were also present the Very Rev. Monsignor McDonald, and Rev. Fathers Ahern and Kamp. Owing to indisposition the Very Rev. Monsignor Paul, diocesan administrator, and Rev. Father Gillan could not attend. At the request of Dean O'Reilly Father Golden preached the funeral sermon, and eulogised the life and labours of the deceased in language that was marked with eloquence and deep feeling, and exhorted all present to ever remember in their prayers and at Holy Mass the soul of him around whose mortal remains they were gathered.

The interment took place after Mass in the Catholic cemetery of Otahuhu, where the remains of the venerable and exemplary old *sogarth aroon* were laid to rest.—R.I.P.

LONDON DENTAL INSTITUTE.—£1000 has been deposited by the principal with the Bank of Australasia at Dunedin as a guarantee of our worth. See advertisements. Complete sets from £3 3s; gas, 2s 6d; extractions, 2s 6d and 1s. Absolutely painless. All work guaranteed 10 years. Money refunded if not found satisfactory.—“.

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL.

THE red deer have become so numerous in the Wairarapa district that they have got to be a great nuisance to the settlers.

WE have to thank the Government printer for a volume of the Statutes passed during the past session of Parliament.

THE Bishop of Auckland (the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan) has been in London, and is now in the West of England (says the London *Tablet* of September 30).

WE have received the Government Insurance *Recorder* for the current quarter, which contains a good deal of matter of interest to insurers and others.

A DISASTROUS fire broke out in Waihi on Thursday afternoon, resulting in the destruction of eight shops and two offices. The loss was estimated at about £2000.

As a result of the severe frosts of a few nights ago, the orchards in the Alexandra district have received considerable damage, and fruit consequently promises to be scarce this season.

A REPRESENTATIVE of an English syndicate has been prospecting the Taranaki district with regard to the indications of petroleum. Should his report be favourable the opening and developing of the industry will be proceeded with without loss of time on an extensive scale.

THE Nelson *Colonist* learns that the Sisters, who conduct St. Mary's schools, have recently started a shorthand class, and that already two pupils have presented themselves for the first examination. Both Miss B. Kelly and Miss H. Leighton passed, and have received certificates from the Pitman Institute.

AN occasional correspondent from Lyttelton writes:—We have just received intimation that Master E. J. Brownie, the first candidate entered by the Sisters of Mercy, Lyttelton, has obtained honours at the Trinity College examination in junior violin playing. We hope that this is but the first of many successes to be placed to the credit of the good Sisters.

THE Kumara *Times* of the 8th inst. announces with regret the death of Mrs. Daniel Sullivan, of Piper's Flat. The deceased had been ill for a considerable time. She was a native of Cork, Ireland, 50 years of age, and was greatly respected by all who knew her. She leaves a husband and family of six sons and two daughters to mourn their loss, for whom the greatest sympathy is felt.—R.I.P.

A HOKITIKA correspondent writes:—I regret to announce the death of Miss Mary Coyle, second daughter of Mr. Patrick Coyle, who departed this life, after a protracted illness, on the 3rd inst. The funeral took place on Sunday, November 5, the remains being followed to the grave by a large number of mourners from Kumara, Waimea, and Stafford, where the deceased was well known and highly respected.—R.I.P.

SISTER Visitation, whose death was recently announced (says the Nelson *Colonist*), was a native of Lyons, France, and was one of the first Sisters to come to Nelson, having arrived here with a few others in 1870, under the direction of the late Archbishop Garin. She was 69 years of age at the time of her decease. Her principal work in Nelson was in the care of vestments, etc., at St. Mary's, and in visiting the Hospital and the sick. She was well known and greatly esteemed for her gentle ways and quiet manner. Her funeral took place on Tuesday, and was attended by the Sisters and girls from the Convent, as well as many others, a large number following the remains. The Sisters carried the coffin to and from the hearse, and a large number of beautiful wreaths were placed on the grave.—R.I.P.

'EVERY dog has his day,' so runs the old saying, and the same might be said of every hero, of every distinguished or notorious individual. The fifth of November, which in the past has been set apart to the memory of Mr. Fawkes, of doubtful reputation, is likely to be dedicated in future to the honour of 'Oom' Paul, the sanctimonious South African President. On the last occasion the stereotyped effigy of Mr. Fawkes was laid aside in favour of the more modern and better known Paul, and consequently tall hats and frock coats were in general request by the rising generation, who firmly believe that their latest 'hero' is of the common or garden variety of nigger. A patriotic North Island boy, of the venerable age of nine, whose father would not allow him to go to South Africa to fight the Boers, determined to show his loyalty in another way. In the absence of the head of the household he bored a hole in a stump of a kauri tree which stood close to the dwelling, filled this with blasting powder and laid a train of this explosive some distance away. With the aid of some hay, his father's Sunday-go-to-meeting tall hat and frock coat he made a satisfactory effigy of the much talked-of President of the South African Republic, which he placed on the kauri stump. A match was applied to the powder train, and in a few seconds Mr. Kruger went skywards, turned a somersault, and landed on his head. The stump was broken into 'smithereens,' the largest of which went through the best room window, nearly knocking daylight through a young scion of the family, and smashing some valuable household goods. It is needless to say that the incident caused considerable alarm in the locality, and many of the women folk thought that a full-grown November meteor had struck this planet somewhere in that section. When the boy's father came home that evening there was a conference of a private and confidential character held in a back room between parent and offspring. No details of the proceedings were supplied to the Press, but it was inferred that a lasting impression was made on that boy's anatomy, and now it is not safe for a smaller urchin to mention anything about the Boer war in his presence.

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THE usual weekly meeting of the Ashburton Catholic Literary Society was held on Wednesday evening of last week, Mr. L. Hanrahan occupying the chair. There was a large attendance, including several members from the country districts. The evening was devoted to business of a social character. Songs were given by Messrs. E. Hanrahan, Burgess, M. Moriarty, Moison, Soal, Higgins, Healy, J. Wilson, P. O'Connor, Quinlan, and Flynn, and recitations by Messrs. J. and D. Moriarty, Gorman, P. and L. Hanrahan, Murphy, Nolan, and M. O'Connor. The meeting was the most successful of its kind yet held by the society.

THE following pupils of the Sisters of Mercy, Greymouth, passed the Trinity College practical musical examination, held on the 6th inst.:—Senior honours: Mary Cecilia Sheedy (piano); senior pass: Mary Cecilia Sheedy (singing). Intermediate honours: Maggie Algie (piano), Nellie McDonnell (piano). Intermediate pass: Florence Foot (piano); Rosabel Weber (singing). Junior honours: Mechtilde Campbell (piano), Winifred White (violin). Junior pass: Nellie Griffen (piano), Daisy Hambleton (piano). Preparatory: Eliza Mahoney (piano). All the candidates sent up were successful. In the drawing examination in connection with the Technical School, Wellington, the following pupils of the same school were successful:—Model: Frances Broad. Freehand: Charles Broad (good), Frances Broad, Alice Hannan. Geometrical: Alicia Roche, Maggie Greaney, Bridget Nolan, and Mary Power.

Mr. M. B. Foster, examiner for Trinity College, London, held an examination in practical music at Westport recently. Thirteen pupils of the Sisters of Mercy were presented, twelve of whom were successful, five of these obtaining honours. The examiner expressed himself as highly pleased with the performance of the candidates, especially their knowledge of technique. He made special reference to the pianoforte playing of Katie Ryan and of the violin playing of Mary Flynn. Three of the candidates—W. Horton, M. Whittton, and M. Knowsley—were prepared by the Sisters of Mercy, Reefton. The following were the successful candidates:—Senior pass: E. Mullan (piano). Intermediate honours: K. Ryan (piano). Intermediate pass: J. Lempfert, K. Carmine (piano). Junior pass: A. Horn, W. Horton, M. Whittton (piano). Preparatory: G. Scott, Q. Ewan, L. Stitt (especially commended). Preparatory pass: M. Knowsley. Junior honours: M. Flynn (violin).

NEW HEADFORD, LINCOLN.

(From a correspondent)

JUST as we go to press a report of the visit of the Right Rev. Dr. Grimes, to New Headford, Lincoln, has come to hand. In consequence of the report arriving so late we have been obliged to curtail it considerably. On his Lordship's arrival an address was presented to him on behalf of the Catholics of the parish, and signed by Messrs. D. McVeigh, T. Leathem, J. Doyle, M. O'Neill, and J. Doherty. His Lordship returned thanks for his hearty reception, and briefly alluded to the great success which had attended his undertaking of building a cathedral in Christchurch worthy of the diocese.

The exercises of the mission were well attended during the week, and were brought to a conclusion on Sunday, the 5th inst., at the eleven o'clock Mass, when the Sacrament of Confirmation was administered to about thirty candidates.

The collection on behalf of the Cathedral fund amounted to close on £1500, including a donation of £1000 from Mr. P. Henley.

A word of praise is due to Miss McLachlan and the Misses Henley for the manner in which they carried out the decorations of the church for the various services of the mission.

On the Thursday evening prior to the close of the mission his Lordship invested the Very Rev. Dean Foley with the insignia of his office. After the close of the service an adjournment was made to the schoolroom, when Mr. G. Cunneen presented Dean Foley with an address, on behalf of his parishioners, congratulating him in the attainment of his silver jubilee of the priesthood, and a chalice. The address was signed by Messrs. M. O'Neill, M. Ryan, D. McVeigh, E. O'Rourke, and M. F. Ryan.

The presentation of the chalice was made in an appropriate speech by Mr. D. McVeigh. Dean Foley thanked his people for their tokens of goodwill, and said he would remember them in the Holy Sacrifice.

Our readers in Dunedin will be interested to know that Mr. S. McDonald, boot and shoe manufacturer and importer, has opened a retail branch in George street. He is now showing a splendid assortment of ladies' and gentlemen's boot and shoes, both of his own manufacture and imported from the leading Home centres of the trade. A few examples of prices will be found in our advertising columns.—*.*

Messrs. Herbert, Haynes and Co. notify their patrons and the public generally that their tailoring department is in charge of an expert cutter, of wide experience. They have every confidence in recommending him to their clients, feeling sure he will give every satisfaction in the way of style, fit, and finish. The firm's stock of British, Colonial, and Foreign Tweeds, is of the most complete, and up-to-date character, whilst the prices are moderate enough to suit the pockets of all.—*.*

The proprietors of Loasby's Wahoo have not to go to distant lands to secure testimonials as to the efficacy of that popular medicine in cases of indigestion. Here is a portion of a letter written by a Dunedin lady a few days ago regarding it:—"I was a sufferer from indigestion for over four years. I suffered from sick headaches and pains in my back and side. I was advised to try Loasby's Wahoo, and it cured me at once. Words cannot express the benefit I received from it."—*.*

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THERE has been little alteration in the position of affairs in South Africa since we wrote last week. British reinforcements have been landing daily, and are being hurried on towards Kimberley and Ladysmith. It is more than probable that heavy fighting will take place in the vicinity of Ladysmith in a few days.

The following are the principal items of news received during the week:—

The Boers have re-occupied Colenso, a town to the south of Ladysmith and nearer to Durban.

Kimberley was reported to be safe on November 5, but it was surrounded by a large Boer force, which was supplied with heavy guns. Commandant Cronje demanded the surrender of the town before November 6, otherwise it would be shelled. The commandant's threat was carried out, but Colonel Kekewick reported on the 8th inst. that the bombardment had been harmless. The Boers have captured the water conservation post in connection with the reservoirs of South Kimberley. The Boers have also captured a convoy, escorted by a small force of troopers, near Bulawayo. The Boers made an attack on Kenilworth, but were repulsed with heavy loss.

In a general attack on Mafeking the Boers were repulsed with heavy loss, over fifty of the enemy being killed. It is estimated that over 7000 Boers surround the town. The gunnery of the attacking party is said to be very defective, and this, with the excellent trenches constructed by the besieged, accounts for the small losses on the side of the British.

A Capetown despatch of Sunday last states that Colonel Gough, with a small force, engaged 700 Free Staters at Belmont, 60 miles south of Kimberley. Colonel Keith Falconer was killed while trying to turn the enemy's flank.

The Free State troops are reported to have invested some small townships on the Western frontier.

The Dublin Fusiliers took advantage of a panic and re-entered Fort Wylie, which protects Colenso, and secured 400 waggon loads of shells and provisions.

Lieutenant-Colonel Plumer, who was last reported as being engaged with the Boers at Rhodes's Drift, on the northern frontier of the Transvaal, is advancing from the north to the relief of Mafeking.

General Sir Redvers Buller has decided to relieve Ladysmith at the earliest opportunity. Reinforcements to the number of 4000 are expected to reach Estcourt by the end of the week.

The total Boer force round Ladysmith is estimated at 18,000. All the troops of volunteers from Durban having gone to the front, a naval brigade of 20 guns has been landed for the defence of the town.

The steamer Roslyn Castle, with Major-General Hilyard and 1100 troops, has arrived at Durban. Four additional transports with 3600 men have arrived at the Cape. Half of these have been ordered to Durban.

A large seige train is being mobilised at Woolwich intended to shell Pretoria. A corps of South African light horse, 1000 strong, is being formed at Capetown. The transport Persia broke her shaft when near Cape Verde, and would have been wrecked were it not the opportune arrival of a British cruiser.

Whilst a British force was reconnoitring on the Orange River it was ambushed by the Boers, and Lieutenant C. M. A. Wood, of the Northumberland Fusiliers and Aide-de-Camp to the Governor of the Cape, was killed. Lieutenant Wood was born in 1873, being a son of Sir Evelyn Wood, and grandson of Jefferson Davis (President of the Southern States during the Civil War). He was a Catholic, and had been educated at the Jesuit College, Beaumont, England.

Five priests of the Marist Order arrived in Sydney, recently, on their way to the South Sea Islands. They were the Rev. Fathers Gonnat, Guilloux, Valeyre, Perpezat, and Belivad.

Very general satisfaction has been felt at the appointment by his Lordship Dr. Torreggiani of the Rev. Father J. J. O'Neill as parish priest of Tamworth, N.S.W. in succession to the late much respected Very Rev. Father Ryan. Father O'Neill was educated for the priesthood in the Ecclesiastical Seminary, Waterford, and was ordained in 1892. He arrived in New South Wales the same year, accompanied by 20 other young Irish priests, who are now labouring in various parts of Australia. Father O'Neill went to Armidale in November, 1892, and was attached to the Armidale Cathedral and Bishop's house until January of last year, when he was transferred to Tamworth. Since 1894 he has, in addition, most capably performed the duties of diocesan inspector of schools, but by reason of the extra work entailed by his recent promotion, he has now resolved to resign that position.

Mr. William Swan is again offering himself as a candidate for the Mayoralty, and solicits the votes of burgesses. He supports economy in expenditure.—*.*

The great care bestowed upon the manufacture of every part of the Dunlop Tyre has no doubt been in the main responsible for the position the Dunlop Company now holds in the cycling world. One of the many points which the tyre scores over its unsuccessful imitators, is the moulding of the air-tube in shape. This prevents any risk of the tread being in tension when the tyre is inflated, and also causes the air-tube to take its place inside the outer cover more readily, and thus minimises the risk of nipping the tube under the wires.—*.*

People We Hear About.

From our latest Home files we learn that the Marquis of Bute has nearly recovered from his illness—a paralytic attack. He is to winter in Italy.

Murray McGregor, Earl of Caithness, a former resident of Olive, near Napier, where he pursued a humble calling, died from pleurisy at the Wairoa hospital the other day. The title was an empty one so far as emolument went.

Lieutenant-Colonel McDonnell, a Maori war veteran, died at Wanganui on Wednesday of last week. The deceased was eldest son of Commander Thomas McDonnell, R.N., Porte Ferry, Cassel, Ireland. He came to New Zealand in 1840, and received a commission as sub-inspector in the Colonial forces in 1863. He took part in various expeditions against the Natives during the sixties. For his services he repeatedly received the thanks of the Governor-in-Council, of the Ministers of the day, and of Sir Duncan Cameron and Sir Trevor Chute, who on two separate occasions recommended him for the New Zealand Cross, which he got later on.

Maitre Fernand Labori, who defended Dreyfus before the court-martial, has won his position by his own talents and thorough industry. He was born in Rheims, where his father was a railway official, and at an early age was sent to Mainz, in Germany, to qualify himself for business. From Mainz he went to England, and it was during his stay in that country that he decided to become a lawyer. On his return home he enrolled himself as a student at the Faculty of Law in Paris, and in 1884 he was duly called to the Bar. It was in 1894 that he achieved fame as a lawyer, by his defence of the notorious Anarchist, Vaillant.

The ex-Empress Eugenie recently arrived at her English home at Farnborough from her Continental travels, and will stay there for a short time, making daily pilgrimages to the mausoleum where the exiled Emperor and the ill-fated Prince Imperial are sleeping. There are sorrow and disappointment in the closing years of the ex-Empress's life. She was once the woman of matchless beauty whom every French subject adored. Very few Englishmen know the antecedents of this woman. She is Eugenie Marie de Montijo, and was born seventy-three years ago last May in the old Spanish city of Granada. She was the second daughter of a Spanish grandee and of a Scotch lady, Kirkpatrick of Cliseburn. The incidents which occurred between her marriage and her flight from the French capital are now crystallised into historical record, but when she left Paris she took with her a vast fortune from the wreck of the Empire, and this she has disbursed with a liberal hand.

Prominent among the alumni of St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore, who attended the recent annual reunion at Detroit, were the five Fathers Hickey, all brothers, of the Cincinnati diocese.

Rear-Admiral Kane, who has just retired from the naval service, is the Calliope hero during the famous storm at Apia, Samoa. He is a native of Dublin, where he was born in 1848. He comes from an old Catholic family, members of which fill leading positions in various professions and in the Church. The Rear-Admiral was a pupil of Archbishop Dunne, of Brisbane.

There is talk of turning Lord Dunraven's Welsh seat, Dunraven Castle, Glamorganshire, into a residential club, with golf links and other attractions. It is an imposing pile, overhanging the sea, and came to the Quins by marriage. There is a considerable park, but the trees suffer from the prevailing westerly wind, and bend eastward. The family have not resided there much of late years, and, having regard to the unique charms of Adare Manor, their Irish home, this is not surprising. Lord Dunraven is one of the very few noblemen of Celtic stock now remaining in the Irish peerage. One died a few months ago, in the person of Lord Lismore, an O'Callaghan, whose title is extinct. The Duke of Devonshire's grandmother was of the family.

There is, perhaps, no man of his prominence in the United States who is so easily approached by newspaper men as Cardinal Gibbons. He makes it a point always to see representatives of the Press when they call at his residence, and he willingly gives out such news for publication as should appear in print. He takes an interest in affairs of the day, and will often discuss with his interviewers public questions, provided the topics are those on which he can with propriety express an opinion. His Eminence is a great pedestrian, and his figure is familiar in the streets of Baltimore. He always appears in a frock coat, and he usually carries a stout cane. The Cardinal was provided with a handsome carriage, and he could ride in state should he so elect, but he prefers to walk.

Among rich and poor Lady Margaret Howard's long illness has been, and is (says *M.A.P.*) the cause of sincere grief. It would not indeed be hazardous to say that she is better known among the poor than among the rich. Of the many benevolent works with which not only her name, but what has been of vast greater use, her personal service, have been associated, is her Catholic Social Union Settlement in Tredegar Square, Mile End, E. Lady Margaret founded it in 1895, and, as long as her health permitted, was constantly in residence. Here were organised, managed, and directed quite a chain of good and useful works for the benefit, social and moral, of the people, few of whom have forgotten the kindly and homely manner of Lady Margaret Howard. If prayers and good wishes can avail in the restoration of her health, her ladyship's absence from their midst will not be a long one.

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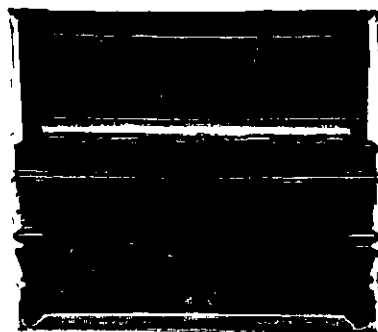
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The Storyteller.

THE TIN CAMEL.

ARMSTRONG was twenty-eight. The fact was that he had such domestic tastes that he was almost ashamed to acknowledge them. This was before he got married.

After that ceremony Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong set up an establishment, a very handsome and well-appointed house. It was very pleasant at first. But he had not been married very long before he found that Mrs. Armstrong was rather fond of going out. She liked society, and this was a taste she had not been able to fully gratify before her marriage. Now she meant to have what she liked.

It was not long before Armstrong found out that in point of fact it bored Mrs. Armstrong to stay at home in the evening alone with him. If there was nothing in the way of a society event on the cards, she liked to go to the theatre or the concert. Armstrong did not object at first, but finally got rather tired of going out every night to talk with people who hadn't anything very interesting to say, or sit through a play.

It was three months after they were married that they were seated at the dinner table one Thursday evening. They had dined out on Monday, had been to a dancing party Tuesday, and at a reception Wednesday.

'We will have a good, quiet evening at home to-night, Nell,' he said cheerfully, as they rose to go into the drawing-room.

Mrs. Armstrong did not look quite as delighted as she could have wished. She was silent a moment and then said slowly: 'Don't you find it rather dull, Ned, to sit down and read or talk with nobody here?'

'I don't feel as if nobody were here when you are here,' he answered, with a smile. 'You are very good company by yourself.'

'That's awfully pretty to say, Ned,' Mrs. Armstrong replied, with a half smile that was somewhat forced; 'but we don't want to settle down into a Darby and Joan yet, do we, and sit by the fire and look at each other for amusement?'

Armstrong was sensitive, proud and quick. As he was sensitive, he felt hurt that his wife should virtually tell him that he bored her to stay at home in the evening alone with him, and as he was proud, he did not care to let her see that he was hurt, and as he was quick, he answered coldly:

'I suppose it is pretty stupid to mope around at home. But I find it a greater bore to go out every night and smirk and talk to a lot of society people I don't care anything about. If you like to, I don't object, but why don't you get Harry to go sometimes? He likes that sort of thing and I don't.'

'I am sure I don't wish to force you,' said Mrs. Armstrong. She seated herself and picked up the evening paper to read. Her husband tried to talk, but Mrs. Armstrong was a little absent-minded in her answers, and once or twice yawned in an irritating way. He began to think that going to the theatre was better than this.

It was the beginning of what became quite a gap. Armstrong inured himself to the thought that his wife's pleasure lay in attending entertainments society had to offer, where her handsome gowns were admired. He gradually fell out of it and got his Cousin Harry, who was a 'society man,' to take her, and he—well, he got into going round to the club again.

Then Charlie was born. Armstrong hoped that the little fellow would be a link to hold himself and his wife together more. But he wasn't. Mrs. Armstrong had a good nurse for him and seemed fond enough of the child in a quiet way, but she was still just as fond of going out in society.

Ned Armstrong took the greatest interest in his son. His baby ways were a revelation and amusement to him. Charlie brought the home atmosphere into the handsome house which Ned had wanted and which he had made an effort to obtain and—hadn't obtained.

It was a delight to the young father to see his infant son and hear amuse himself on the floor, and when he got four small white teeth and would look up at his papa and smile, it became quite sociable. And he got so fond of watching the small chap that he very seldom went to the club.

Charlie had very round black eyes, bright and snapping, and his small mouth could take such a determined look that it was quite amusing. He was exceedingly fond of his papa, and as soon as his nurse would bring him into the room wanted to go to him and play with his beard or investigate his watch chain or scarf pin. Armstrong would have spoiled the child without a doubt if it hadn't been that Charlie was one of those wholesome children that are not spoiled easily.

As the boy grew up and got to talk and to observe things, Armstrong used to find his wife's very moderate affection for the child annoying. How could she take such pleasure in going out and seem so calm and unmoved by the baby visitor's cute little ways? The fact was that the young father felt such a pride and delight in everything his sturdy, bright-eyed son did that he grew more estranged from Mrs. Armstrong, from the fact that she did not show herself a warmer-hearted mother.

Charlie was mischievous. One day the maid was bringing a pailful of water into the kitchen. He had stationed himself by the door, and as she came by plunged his small arms in the water. Then he laughed so good-naturedly over his fun that she had not the heart to scold him very much.

Another time the cook, a large, brisk woman, who was as neat as a pin, had made some pies. The crust was spread over them and they stood on the table a moment before she put them into the oven. Charlie saw the smooth, soft coverings and got the idea that he should enjoy poking his small fingers into them. They were such proper-looking pies! He sidled up to the table, spread out his tiny fingers and stuck them into the middle of the pie.

Then he stood, holding out his sticky hand, and laughed in his little chuckling way, his head cocked on one side, like a bird's. He was never afraid to be discovered. But Mrs. Armstrong thought this naughty and that he must be taught not to do such things. So, as he stood, his small nose wrinkled up and his tiny white teeth showing in his smile of roguery, she took the little hand and slapped it once or twice. Right before the cook, too!

It was not much of a punishment, but the little man felt it to the bottom of his soul. Children have intuitions and know and feel much more than their elders suspect. His mother had slapped his hand hastily and with impatience in her face. Perhaps Charlie felt that if it were justice it was not justly administered. And without a doubt his dignity was hurt by being corrected before Mrs. Mullin, the cook, who was most devoted to him.

The smile faded from his face, a strange, serious expression of wounded pride stole over his small countenance, and without a word he turned and walked slowly away. There was something extremely touching to Ned Armstrong as he looked at his small figure in the dark woollen dress walking so stiffly toward him with its unsteady steps, and he had a strange feeling in his heart. He caught up the little chap and crowded to him and put him on his shoulder to give him a ride. But Charlie pushed his head against his papa's breast, seeming to nestle there for comfort. He wouldn't play or smile. He simply clung to his papa closely. He didn't say a word, nor had he cried, but that look of wounded feeling stayed on his face for some time and made poor Armstrong feel very uncomfortable.

Usually Ned and Charlie had a great old time together. Ned liked to see him sitting on the floor, his sturdy little legs sticking out from beneath his woollen gown, arranging the animals of Noah's ark in a fantastic procession. This collection of animals was most demoralizing to correct ideas of zoology. The rhinoceros was blue, the elephant was a distressing vivid yellow, the sheep were so dazingly white that they seemed as wrong chromatically as any of the beasts of alien hues. The zebra, beautifully stripped in buff and black, and a camel, whose tender pink would have petrified a son of the desert, were Charlie's especial favorites. The hump on the camel was the source of fascination in this gracious heart, for Charlie would always rub his tiny forefinger over the elevation on the animal's back and then wrinkle his small nose in a quizzical smile at his papa. Why the zebra was such a joy Mr. Armstrong could not fathom. But he was a very great favorite.

When his papa took the capacious ark and tumbled the tin animals out in a heap on the floor, his son and he always looked out for the camel, and when he found him stood him up until he had arranged the procession, in which the quadruped with the undulating back was then given a prominent position. It was hard to tell which got the most fun out of the tin menagerie, Armstrong *père* or his bright-eyed four-year-old son. Nothing pleased the father so much as to see the constant delight this little man took in arranging them. The gravity with which he placed a glittering sheep by the side of the elephant and gave a rooster as companion to the blue rhinoceros was very diverting. And Ned got to wait with pleasant anticipation for the camel. Charlie gravely picked him up, rubbed his finger along the hump and then always looked up with the cute little smile to his father, as if he would say: 'He's got that funny lump on his back still.'

It is the commonest mistake in the world for a fond parent to believe that his or her child is the most extraordinary phenomenon of its kind that exists. Ned Armstrong was certainly a proud and happy father, and he had nothing he would have wished different in his son. He was a grateful father, too. Had not this small, bright-eyed boy of his made his home what he had so long wished? Charlie was never tired of talking or playing with him. The child never wanted to leave him till his round head, with the straight black hair that made him look like a little Indian, grew so heavy with sleep that it began to fall over like a poppy's weighed down with the rain.

Every day he got stronger and developed new traits. He was such a contented child, and although he was quiet, he was full of roguery and animation. Ned would sometimes sit and smile to himself when he was left alone by the fire, after the little man had pressed his small, moist mouth against his for a good-night kiss. When he grew up, what fun they would have together! If he was such a companion to him now, when he was only beginning to talk and toddle about, what would he be when he was a fine healthy boy, budding out with ideas?

One evening Charlie did not seem quite himself. He would lean his head against his papa's knee and hold it there very quietly, and then walk around in a meditative way with his unsteady steps. He looked at his father, too, with a sort of strange, frail look that worried Armstrong, because the boy seemed so preoccupied with something. When his father took him in his arms and tried to ride him on his knee, talking to him gaily and banteringly, Charlie demurred in his quiet way, and climbing up into his papa's lap, nestled against him in a tired fashion. Armstrong felt that his cheek was hot when he pressed him close to his face.

He got a little nervous and did his best to rouse the child to his wonted cheerfulness. Finally he placed him on the floor.

'There, Charlie, sit there a minute and we'll have the old Noah's ark and give the animals an outing.' He got the big ark and tumbled the pieces out on the floor, so that they spread all about the child.

'Now, put 'em through their paces, Charlie! Give 'em a constitutional,' he cried, cheerily.

Charlie looked at the tin animals for two or three moments, and then turned his round black eyes up to his father with a pathetic little elevation of the eyebrows. There was the troubled look on his face. Then he turned one or two over, as if looking for the camel, but this was feebly done and without the keen interest in that gibbous creature's whereabouts which he usually displayed. Then he seemed to give it up, and slowly took the tin beasts, one by one, deposited them in the large green ark, and laboriously put the cover on.

With his little mouth compressed, he walked in his slow way over to his father and put up his arms to be lifted up. He heaved a little sigh as he was taken on Armstrong's lap. After a moment he said in his thin, childish voice: 'Papa, does God love me?'

Armstrong was positively startled by the question. But he had no doubt about his answer. He wrapped his strong arms about the small figure in its little woollen dress and said robustly: 'Of course he loves you, Charlie. Why wouldn't he love a nice little chap like you?'

Charlie was perfectly quiet for a few moments more. Then he said in his small voice again and with the equally curious look: 'Will He have me?'

Armstrong was quite set back and a little frightened by this astounding query, coming so soon on the other. He felt nervous and uncomfortable.

'He'll have you some time, little man, but not for a good many, many years. You're going to stay with your pappy for a great long time.'

Charlie kept up the strangely quiet air until the nursemaid came in to put him to bed. Armstrong asked her if the child had been feeling unwell. She said no, only that he had been rather quiet in the latter part of the afternoon. Armstrong kissed him good-night fervently. He told the girl that he was afraid the little boy was unwell, and wished her to try and look after him particularly during the night.

It was almost too much for Armstrong. There must be something the matter with the child. His eyes filled with tears in spite of himself.

The next morning Charlie was ill enough for Armstrong to call a doctor. He examined the child and said: 'He seems feverish, but I hardly know what to think it is. It is not dangerous. He has simply overheated himself.'

Armstrong went to his office, but was very restless and worried. He came home earlier than usual. He was almost grateful to Mrs. Armstrong for the cool way in which she answered his inquiry about Charlie's condition.

'Oh! he's feverish still, but there isn't anything really the matter. Children have these things always.'

There was such a cheerful confidence in her tones that he did not stop to question how well founded her experience in such cases was nor what grounds she had for feeling so certain in the present instance. Men are prone to think that women are more knowing than themselves in matters of sickness, and it is certainly no more than human to welcome an assurance which helps to banish an agonising doubt.

He was so pleased that he didn't take offence at Mrs. Armstrong's going over to her mother-in-law's for the evening. He drew his chair up by the little cot and watched Charlie's small head as it turned restlessly on the pillow. Once the little chap opened his round black eyes on his father, who smiled on him.

'Papa!' said Charlie, with a new accent on the word, but grave and unsmiling. Then he shut his eyes and slept.

The next morning he was no better. The doctor said he was about the same, but would improve before evening probably. Armstrong insisted on his coming again in the evening and rather reluctantly went to the office. When he reasoned things out he convinced himself that his boy's illness was only a natural phase of the ups and downs to which boyhood was necessarily subject. But three minutes later he felt the former fear, although he would not admit it to himself. He came home earlier than the day before and went at once to his boy's cot. Charlie was asleep, but his cheeks were flushed and his breathing was a little laboured. Ned tip-toed out of the room.

When the doctor came after dinner he gave a new prescription, said the fever seemed a little increased, that it was holding on longer than he had expected, but the child was so strong that it didn't really amount to anything.

'You don't suppose for a moment that there is anything dangerous in it, do you, doctor?' asked Mrs. Armstrong. 'I have an engagement for this evening, but if the child is seriously ill I should let it go, of course.'

'Oh! there is nothing you could do,' the doctor answered, easily. 'The instructions are very simple and the nurse can attend to them. I have left four powders, which should be given at intervals of every three hours. I don't think there is any ground for anxiety.'

'Are you going out again to-night?' Armstrong asked of his wife, a little sternly, as soon as the doctor was gone.

'Why, you don't want me to give up the most important ball of the whole season simply because Charlie feels a little feverish, do you?' Mrs. Armstrong answered, in rather an injured tone. 'You heard the doctor say there wasn't the slightest danger. I believe you care a great deal more for the baby than you do for me.'

It was on the tip of Armstrong's tongue to retort: 'The baby cares a great deal more for me than you do.' But he did not like to feel that the little boy suffering in the other room was acting as a wedge to drive his wife and him more asunder, so he quietly said: 'Very well,' and passed into the room where Charlie was.

In about an hour it was time for the powder. Armstrong raised the small head and held the glass with the medicine in it to the boy's lips, encouraging him to take it. He had tasted it himself to see if it was unpleasant. The nursemaid hovered over and around, but he would not let her give Charlie the medicine.

As he laid the little fellow back on the pillow he heard the soft swish of silk and his wife entered the room. She was attired in her ball gown, with her wraps over her arm. Armstrong glanced at her for a moment. Then he turned away from the brilliant face, with its cool, delicate colour, the dewy softness in the eyes and the contented, easy curves of the small mouth to the flushed face in the cot with the wide-open, feverish eyes and the parted lips. He felt a hard aversion for the mother who could leave her husband by the side of her sick child to go and dance and talk and smile with others.

'How is he, Ned?' she asked airily as she came to the side of the cot and touched the little hot cheek lightly with her index finger. 'His face is a little hot, isn't it? By-by, darling.'

Pressing back her laces, she bent over the bed and kissed Charlie. He put up his arms to clasp her about the neck, but she drew back quickly and pinched his cheek playfully, smiling on him. It would be stupid to let the little chap spoil the delicate lightness of effect in her corsage by crumpling the lace.

'Good-night, Ned. I shan't stay very long,' she said to her husband, and rustled out to her carriage. He felt relieved when she had left them alone, him and the boy. How could a mother have checked that movement of affection in her child?

Charlie slept in a fitful way and tossed about a great deal. The nursemaid came and looked at him now and then and arranged the sheets and pillow. Armstrong gave him the second powder. Soon after he noticed Charlie's eyebrows raise themselves in pain, and he laboured a good deal with his breathing. Ned sat anxiously watching him. He suffered as much as the boy when he saw the small chest oppressed with the want of air. Why should the little fellow have to endure pain? If he could only have taken it on himself!

'Charlie,' he said to him, 'how do you feel, little man?'

The 'little man' raised his eyelids and looked at his father, but did not speak. The breathing grew harder for him. Poor Ned drew his chair closer to the bed and put his finger in the tiny hand lying on the white counterpane. The small fingers closed tightly about it and the old roguish smile half came to his lips. But it died away as he breathed more quickly. He straightened his little form out in his effort to breathe and his forehead wrinkled a little with the pain. Then there was a little quiver of relaxation, his eyes closed and he seemed to sleep quietly.

Armstrong still left his fingers in Charlie's hand. He sat perfectly still, not to disturb the little invalid in the slumber whose refreshing folds had wrapped him about.

This perfectly tranquil repose was a good sign. Charlie would be better when he woke up. The nursemaid came into the room, but he glanced at her and said 'Sh' in a low tone and she glided out again.

He must have sat three-quarters of an hour, his finger still in the tiny hand. He would not stir for fear of disturbing the little boy's sleep. Suddenly he realised with a shudder that the soft fingers were cold! They had grown chilly to his touch. He put his other hand to the child's head, his cheek. The chill there was icy already.

He realised it all. While his 'little man' had held tightly to his finger, another had taken his other hand and led him away—that other whose name is Death. He took the small form from the cot and held him tightly pressed to his face. Alas! It was the first time the little cheek had pressed against his own without some answering touch of love.

Slowly the hot tears rolled down his cheeks. He had never felt such a hateful loneliness. Oh! how much this dear little boy had taken a way from him.

It was nearly half-past two, but he still sat holding the little form in his arms. He heard a carriage roll up to the door, then a light step on the stairs and the rustle of a silken train. Mrs. Armstrong came into the room. She had taken off her wraps and head covering as she came up the stairs, and stood a moment in the flush of her radiant beauty, a diamond star in her dark hair sending out sparks of glittering light.

'Is he asleep? Why don't you put him to bed?' she asked, as she tossed her wraps on the sofa and began drawing off her long gloves.

'He is dead!' her husband answered, in a cold, hard voice.

'Oh, Ned! Ned!' she cried. And the tears gushed from her eyes and she hurried towards him and sought to take the child.

He rose, and holding the boy tightly with his left arm, held out his right hand to hold her off.

'No, you can't take him. He is my boy. He would only rumple your dress,' he said, in a hard voice.

She stood for a moment horror-stricken, the light fading out of her eyes. Then she fell in a swoon. He made no effort to break her fall. This woman had been whirling about to the seductive strains of music in a perfume-scented ball-room, while her only child gasped its life out clutching his father's hand. No! he would rather care for his dead boy than this mockery of a living wife. Let her feel all she could for once.

But this was only momentary. He rose, placed his dead boy in the cot, and, ringing for the maid, raised his wife from the floor. Restoratives were applied and gradually she showed signs of reviving. Then she opened her eyes and sat up. As consciousness returned memory recalled the dread event. Her husband, with her dead child in his arms, had refused to let her touch it!

But he was here, supporting her now. She flung her arms about his neck and buried her face on his chest, weeping and wailing. 'O, Ned! I did not know. Forgive me! But I am wicked and thoughtless. Oh! how patiently you have borne with me! And now Char——' She could not go on, but sobbed anew.

Her husband caressed and soothed her. All his resentment had faded like mist before the agony of the mother's awakening. In her humiliation and loss she was dear to him for her grief over the lost child.

'Neil,' he said, gently and softly, 'it is not so hard when we bear it together.' She rose and he supported her to the cot, where the bright little creature lay, his small person vested with the solemn dignity of death. And then he left her to weep her heart clear.

He stepped into the next room to allow her feelings untrammelled vent. As he slowly paced to and fro he paused near the sofa and felt something stiff and hard crunch under his foot. He stopped, and walking into the room where his wife was kneeling by the cot, with her arms clasped about the boy, looked at it.

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It was the pink camel, his hump crushed flat by the pressure of Armstrong's foot!

The image of his little boy sitting on the floor, in his brown woollen gown, looking at him with his queer little amused smile as his small fingers wandered over the camel's hump came back to him, and with a groan the strong young fellow sank by his wife's side, holding the camel tightly in his hand.

She turned as she felt him there, and grasping Charlie's hand with hers, let the other arm steal about his neck. She drew his head down to her and kissed him between her sobs.

He clasped the mother's hand, which held the dead boy's, so that he held them both. Then a faint smile dawned through his tears as he looked at the tin camel's flattened back.

'Nell,' he said, and the tone thrilled her, 'Charlie could never understand why there was a hump on the camel's back. There isn't any there now.' His look told volumes.

She threw her arms around him and strained him to her. Charlie's dead fingers had smoothed away more than a camel's hump.

The Catholic World.

BELGIUM.—A Cardinal likely to be Appointed.—It is reported that Belgium has put in a claim for a Cardinal of the Curia. It appears that a couple of years ago King Leopold II. made known his ardent desire to the Holy Father, the success of the Belgian Congo and the importance of the African missions being put forward as arguments for it. His Holiness Pope Leo XIII. has shown his willingness to do justice to the claims of the Belgian Government. Hence it is thought that in the coming Consistory the Pope will create a Belgian cardinal. This supposition leads to another. Upon whom will the Pope's choice fall? It was first said that Père Hemptinne, Abbot-primate of the Benedictines and former Superior of Maredsous, who has been the Pope's right hand in the work of the internationalisation of Benedictine monasteries, would be the chosen one. It appears, however, that the Holy Father has given the preference to a Belgian prelate, who has been established for a long time at Rome, Mgr. de Neckère. This latter was assured of it by his Holiness in a special audience.

A Rare Jubilee.—In a pretty little place called Casterle an event quite unique in its character took place in the early part of September. Twenty-five priests, all natives of this village, came

together to offer up a Mass of thanksgiving in the church of their native place. At the head of this noble band were Mgr. Thomas Heylen, Lord Abbot of the Premonstratation Abbey of Tongerlo, to whom the Manchester Catholics owe so much for his laudable efforts in establishing and aiding the Varley street mission, Canon Mierts, president of the Grand Séminaire of Mechlin, and the Canons Meeus, brothers, of Mechlin. The ceremony was beautiful, the richly-decorated church being crowded with friends and relations of this apostolic band. Abbé Van Deun, the worthy curé of the parish, united these happy priests at his table after the Mass. The whole population was in rejoicing, the houses were decorated for the occasion, and flags and banners waved from every window.

ENGLAND.—Ordinations at the Mill Hill Foreign Missionary College.—On Ember Saturday, September 23, the Right Rev. Dr. Brindle, D.S.O., Bishop of Hermopolis, held an ordination at St. Joseph's Foreign Missionary College, Mill Hill. The following were raised to the priesthood:—The Revs. P. Keller, L. Litloff, W. v. Mens, A. v. d. Burg, F. X. van Agt, G. Brandsma, H. Drontman, E. Grimshaw, P. E. Hoffman, H. Jansen, L. v. d. Kallen, C. J. Kirk, J. Minderop, G. Mulder, M. Sweeney, and H. Wensink.

Ordination of a Priest.—The Rev. Arthur Day, youngest son of Mr. Justice Day, was, on the last Sunday in September, ordained to the priesthood by the Right Rev. Dr. Brindle, D.S.O., Assistant Bishop of Westminster, at the Jesuit Church in Farm street. An elder brother, the Rev. Henry Day, S.J., is one of the priests at Roehampton.

St. Mary's, Moorfields.—Although the great bulk of the clergy and laity (says the *New Era*) whose bodies are interred in the vaults of St. Mary's, Moorfields—to the number of some 5,000—will shortly be removed to Wembley, it has been decided to convey the remains of the three Bishops who repose beneath the altar for sepulture at St. Edmund's College, near Ware, where a suitable memorial will be erected. These prelates, who were styled 'Vicars-Apostolic of the London District' before the restoration of the Catholic Hierarchy under Archbishop (afterwards Cardinal) Wiseman, were Bishops Poynter, Bramstone, and Gradwell. Upon the death of the first-named, in 1827, his heart was removed from his body and conveyed to St. Edmund's College, where it was deposited in a silver case covered with purple velvet in the college chapel. Before his elevation to the Episcopate, Dr. Poynter had been one of the heads of the college, to which he had fled, with other members of the English College of Douai, when driven thence by the French

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Revolution. The re-interment of the Bishops at St. Edmund's College will be marked by special solemnity.

An Example of Bigotry.—A pillar of Protestantism named Hargreaves (says *London Truth*) applied to the Haslingden Guardians the other day for permission to take a Roman Catholic boy out of the workhouse, intimating that it was his intention to send him to a Protestant school and a Protestant chapel. The clerk pointed out that this would be contrary to the law, but the Guardians apparently care nothing for the law, and the application was granted. Personally I am rather inclined to sympathise with the view of a Guardian who thought it a pity that a pauper lad should be deprived of the offer of a comfortable home over a question of religion. Still there are many good and sufficient reasons why the practice of anything in the nature of proselytism among the children of the State should be prevented, and in setting the regulations at defiance in this way the Haslingden Guardians have been guilty of a piece of audacity for which the Local Government Board will doubtless call them to account. The English Catholic Guardians' Association have taken the matter in hand, so it is likely the narrow-minded bigots of the Haslingden Board will hear more of this matter.

Returning to the Fold.—Several of the New Zealand newspapers have given special prominence to an affair which occurred recently in England. The account given by the secular Press being more or less accurate, we give the following statement of the affair taken from the *Catholic Times*, September 29:—The Rev. J. Waring, Anglican curate of Wethersett, Norfolk, has suddenly left the parish and joined the Catholic Church. Mr. Waring was formerly a Catholic priest, and was stationed at Carnarvon. He left the Church in 1892, became an Anglican, and married. It is stated that he has shown "zeal and earnestness in his ministerial duties." He has been received back into the Church by Father Bede Cox, O.S.B. Reports in the daily papers assert that he has deserted or abandoned the lady to whom he was united by the law and his children, but it is probable some arrangements have been made in the matter. Being in Holy Orders he could not contract a valid marriage, and it was therefore necessary that he should break off a connection which ought never to have been formed. It is believed he has left England for Australia, where he has a brother who recently became a Catholic priest.

A Welsh Translation of the Bible.—The Welsh Prayer Book is to be supplemented by a Welsh version of the Bible. Like the Prayer Book, it will be an original translation from the Vulgate. It will be issued in parts, the first of which, consisting of gospels and epistles, will soon be ready for the press.

FRANCE.—His Holiness and the French Nation.—In receiving a number of pilgrims from Toulouse recently his Holiness the Pope addressed to them a few words on the present situation of their country. He said he was extremely grieved by the violent passions which lately had troubled public life in France, and added that the great questions now were pacification and the success of the Paris Exhibition, as a well-deserved crown to the civil activity of the French people.

A New Charity.—A New Charity has been started in France. Three young working-girls in Toulouse decided to devote their Sundays to the care of poor and neglected old people who could not find refuge in the hospitals. They met one or twice every month for mutual encouragement, and soon their examples drew others to join them. The organization adopted the title of 'Work of Neglected Old People.' The members were told off in groups of ten, with a prefect for each, and each group put in charge of some poor aged man or woman. The membership has since grown to eight hundred, and its work is supplemented by the credit and efforts of a club of wealthy society ladies who procure places in hospitals for the sick and utterly helpless. A committee of married ladies provides alms, linen, clothing and victuals; but the visiting of the wards remains the privilege of the poor working girls who originally organised the society.

GERMANY.—The Catholic Press in the Fatherland.—At the State convention of the Catholic Knights of Ohio, Bishop Hortsman of Cleveland said, in urging support of the Catholic Press: 'At one time there were only eight Catholic papers in Germany; to-day there are two hundred and eighty, with a subscription of thousands; and as a result of that is the constant upholding of Catholic interests uniting the Catholics in general. To-day Kaiser Wilhelm has to hold out his hand to the Catholic Centrum or otherwise he cannot hold his power.'

ITALY.—The Feast of St. Januarius.—The feast of St. Januarius, patron of Naples, was celebrated on September 19 with the customary fervour. The liquefaction of the blood of the saint took place in presence of a congregation which filled the vast cathedral.

SCOTLAND.—Transfer of Father Whyte, S.J.—General regret has been felt on the transfer of the Rev. Father Whyte, S.J., from Edinburgh to St. Ignatius's College, Stamford Hill, London. Amongst Catholics generally in Edinburgh Father Whyte was beloved for his saintly life and pleasant, cheerful manner, while by those outside the Faith who had the pleasure of his acquaintance he was held in the highest possible esteem for his many estimable qualities both of head and heart. It was felt for a considerable time past that his labours in connection with the Church of the Sacred Heart were too severe for one who had attained his seventy-first year, and accordingly a place has been selected for him where his responsibilities will be comparatively light. He will have spiritual charge of the boys of the College—a position for which he is eminently fitted—and as the parish is a small one, his other duties will not be at all exacting. Some five years ago Father Whyte celebrated his golden jubilee as a member of the Society of Jesus. Rev. Father Fraser, S.J., has been appointed to the Church of the Sacred Heart, Edinburgh, in place of Father Whyte.

UNITED STATES.—A Generous Donor.—Mrs. Thomas F. Ryan of New York City, wife of the street railway magnate, has given \$20,000 for the establishment and endowment of a convent of nuns of the Perpetual Adoration in connection with St. Paul's parish in Washington.

A Disrespectful Practice.—Rev. Charles P. Gillen, pastor of St. Joseph's Church, Patterson, N.J., has denounced from the altar the practice of throwing rice at newly-wedded couples in and around the church. Father Gillen referred to the subject at all the Masses. He said that it was a disrespect to the Sacrament of Matrimony, and that he had determined that it should be stopped. 'I have tried to discourage the practice in the past without effect and now must say that it is finally to be stopped,' he said. 'If there is any more of it hereafter I propose to engage officers and have them present at weddings to arrest the offenders.'

An Appeal for Italian Seminarians.—His Lordship Bishop Horstmann, of Cleveland, has sent the following appeal from America, where there is a great need of priests for the Italian population, to the Italian Bishops:—Your compatriots in America are suffering for the want of priests of their own nationality, who will attend to their spiritual welfare and stand by them in their struggles for the faith. Priests educated and ordained in Italy do not stay with us; there is ever the fear that Italian congregations will be left without a priest. Send us not priests but seminarians to complete their theological studies in American seminaries, be ordained in America and become affiliated into the dioceses. This plan has been carried out by all the other nationalities in America with splendid success. Under this system there is no complaint about funds and churches. Their fellow-students of other nationalities are in perfect sympathy and harmony with them; will aid and advise them and give them the benefit of their own experience. They will learn English while in the seminaries, and this knowledge alone will be a boon and help to them in obtaining the aid and sympathy of the Italian-American members of their congregations, and they will meet with more success and good-will than would an Italian priest belonging to a diocese in Italy.

Proposed Rebuilding of an Orphan Asylum.—St Agnes's Orphan Asylum, Sparkill, New York, which was recently destroyed by fire, will be rebuilt. This was decided at a meeting presided over by Archbishop Corrigan. The Rev. Father Edwards, who was the Superior of the ruined convent, read his report of the disaster and told of the heroism of the Sisters of St. Dominic and their devotion to their charges. Father Edwards also advocated the rebuilding of the convent with fireproof material and with all the modern appliances for safety in case of fire.

Death of a Distinguished Priest.—On September 5, at St. Joseph's Rectory, New York, the Rev. Father Jeremiah F. Keane, M.A., departed this life after a few days' illness. Born at Farran, County Cork, Ireland, 36 years ago, his early education was entrusted to the Christian Brothers at the Monastery, Cork. He afterwards attended St. Finn Barr's Seminary, and went on to Maynooth, when he read a most distinguished course. After doing duty in Cork for a short time he went to the States, and took a mission in New York, where his most successful career was cut short by death.

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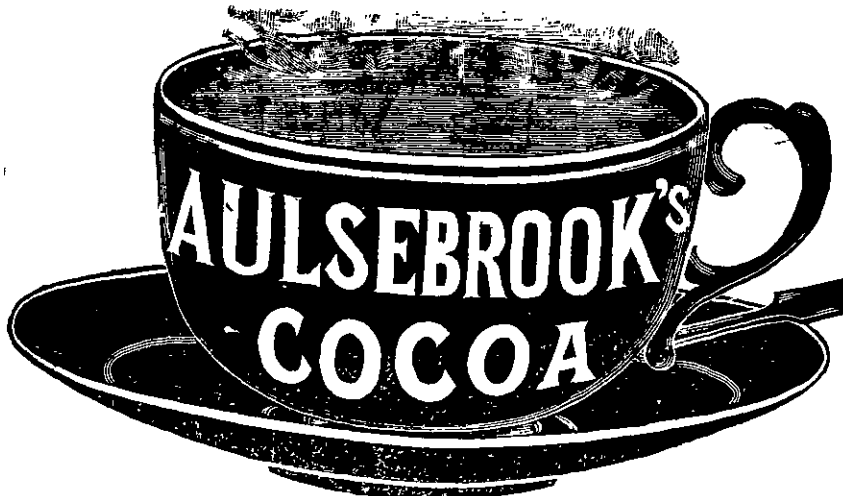
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Said Mrs. Smith one day,	And buy for ready cash
Unto her neighbour Mrs. Jones,	Just nothing but the best of goods,
Just in a friendly way.	And never worthless trash.
They last as long again as mine,	I used to buy from other shops
And always look so neat;	But found it did not pay;
They seem to fit you like a glove,	The soles too quickly did wear out,
So nice they suit your feet."	Or else the tops gave way."
I always buy from Loft and Co."	So if you want good Boots and Shoes,
Mrs. Jones did then reply.	That give good honest wear,
The reason that I buy from them	Just go direct to Loft and Co.,
I now will tell you why.	And you will get them there

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COLLEGE AND SCHOOL SPORTS.

(From our WELLINGTON correspondent.)

ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE ANNUAL MEETING.

St. Patrick's College Annual Sports' meeting was held on the Basin Reserve on Tuesday. The day was beautifully fine. All the local clergy were on the ground, and there was a large attendance of friends of the college and general public. Much credit is due to the Rev. S. Mahony, director of sports, for the manner in which they were conducted, and the punctuality which marked the starting of events throughout the afternoon. The officers for the meeting were:—Patron, His Grace Archbishop Redwood, S.M., D.D.; president, Very Rev. T. Bower, S.M., B.A.; vice-presidents—Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, S.M., V.G., Hon. Count Grace, C.M.G., M.L.C., Drs. Cahill and Martin, Messrs. M. Kennedy, J. J. Devine, R. O'Connor, J. Curran, C.S.G.; judges—Messrs. R. J. Collins, W. Gascoigne, J. Ward, M. Crombie; referee, Rev. Father Mahony, S.M.; starter, Mr. H. McCardell; timekeeper, Mr. L. W. Ludwig; committee—Rev. Father Mahony, S.M., Messrs. W. Mikaera, M. Mahoney, T. McCarthy, T. Walshe, A. Ongley; hon. secretary, Mr. R. Hoare.

The officials were entertained at afternoon tea at St. Patrick's College. The result of St. Patrick's College Grand Handicap was a surprise to the 'knowing ones' among the boys, the winner turning up in M. Mahoney with eight points; D. O'Malley, seven points, and J. O'Kane, five points, being second and third respectively. The following are the results of the several events, all of which were conducted under the New Zealand Amateur Athletic Association rules:—

St. Patrick's College Grand Handicap. First distance, 100yds.—First heat—D. O'Malley, 4yds, 1; W. J. O'Kane, scr, 2; G. Fitzpatrick, 7yds, 3. Second heat—T. McCarthy, 5yds, 1; F. Tymons, 2yds, 2; J. McGarrigle, 7yds, 3. Third heat—M. D. Mahoney, 4yds, 1; D. Twohill, 6yds, 2; J. Kelliher, 5yds, 3. Final—Mahoney 1, Tymons 2, O'Malley 3. Second distance, 220yds.—First heat—T. McCarthy, 8yds, 1; J. Kelliher, 8yds, 2; G. Fitzpatrick, 11yds, 3. Time, 25 3/5sec. Second heat—Hori Hohepa, 8yds, 1; D. O'Malley, 6yds, 2; D. Twohill, 9yds, 3. Time, 26sec. Final—O'Malley 1, McCarthy 2, Kelliher 3. Third distance, 440yds (over 16).—J. O'Kane, scr, 1; M. Mahoney, 12yds, 2; D. O'Malley, 8yds, 3.

100yds (under 16). First heat—J. Quill, 3yds, 1; J. Parker, 5yds, 2; A. Garvey, scr, 3. Second heat—J. McGovern, 2yds, 1; M. Carroll, 6yds, 2; J. Bruen, 5yds, 3. Third heat—P. Dwyer, 5yds, 1; C. Brebner, 2yds, 2; G. Hunter, 6yds, 3. Final—Carroll 1, Brebner 2, Quill 3.

100yds (under 12).—H. Bridge, 8yds, 1; J. McDonald, scr, 2; F. du Moulin, 6yds, 3.

100yds (under 14).—First heat—J. McDonald, 6yds, 1; P. Dwyer, scr, 2; J. Dignan, 8yds, 3. Second heat—J. Bridge, 5yds, 1; J. Hammond, scr, 2; V. McGovern, 10yds, 3. Final—Dwyer 1, J. McDonald 2, Bridge 3.

150yds Championship.—W. J. O'Kane, 1; F. Tymons, 2; M. D. Mahoney, 3.

250yds (under 16).—A. Garvey, scr, 1; C. Brebner, 3yds, 2; J. McGovern, 4yds, 3.

Potato Race.—Mikaera, 1; Walshe, 2; Dignan, 3.

120yds Open Handicap.—First heat: T. Walshe, 7yds, 1; J. McGovern, 7yds, 2; H. Sullivan, 7yds, 3. Second heat: F. Tymons, 3yds, 1; C. Brebner, 7yds, and J. Quill, 8yds, dead heat. Third heat: D. Twohill, 7yds, 1; P. Dorset, 8yds, 2; A. Ongley, 9yds, 3. Final: Brebner 1, Tymons 2, Dorset 3.

High Jump Handicap.—T. Hunter (3in), 4ft 8in, and D. O'Malley (2in), 4ft 9in, dead heat; T. Walsh (2in), 4ft 8in, and M. O'Brien (4in), 4ft 6in, dead heat.

Half-mile Handicap.—W. J. O'Kane, scr, 1; J. Conlan, 15yds, 2; G. O'Kane, 45yds, 3.

One-mile Bicycle Handicap.—D. Twohill, 30yds, 1; C. O'Connor, scr, 2; I. Bridge, 120yds, 3.

440yds.—J. Prenderville, 10yds, 1; A. Garvey, scr, 2; C. Ward, 30yds, 3.

Bandmen's Race, 150yds.—R. Loughnan, 15yds, 1; F. Tymons 3yds, 2; R. Dorset, 8yds, 3.

One-mile Handicap.—A. Ongley, 15yds, 1; T. Collerton, 30yds, 2; J. Conlan, 30yds, 3.

Old Boys' Race, 150yds.—B. Weybourne, 2yds, 1; A. Henderson, 3yds, 2; F. Crombie, 10yds, 3.

MARIST BROTHERS' OLD BOYS' ASSOCIATION.

The Marist Brothers' Old Boys' Association held their annual picnic and sports at Ross's Gardens on the Prince of Wales Birthday. The Grand Handicap was won on points by Mr. H. McKeown, who holds Mr. Shannon's cup for the year. The following are the results of the days sports:—

Grand Handicap, 100yds.—H. McKeown, 3yds, 1; F. McDonald, 7yds, 2; J. M. O'Reilly, 3yds, 3. 220yds.—H. McKeown, 8yds, 1; J. M. O'Reilly, 8yds, 2; F. McDonald, 13yds, 3. 440yds.—J. Powell, scr, 1; J. M. O'Reilly, 10yds, 2. On points, H. McKeown holds Mr. W. Shannon's challenge cup and gold medal for twelve months. St. Patrick's College Handicap, 220yds.—J. O'Kane, scr, 1; C. Brebner, 10yds, 2; M. Hannon, 9yds, 3.

Young Ladies' Race, 75yds—Miss K. Kelly, 1; Miss K. Brown, 2; Miss M. Kelly, 3.

Sack Race (open) 50yds.—N. B. Austin, 1; Henderson, 2.

Marist Brothers' Present Pupils' Race 100yds.—H. M'Alister, 6yds, 1; J. Hamilton, 9yds, 2; J. McKeown, 6yds, 3.

Half-mile Handicap.—H. McKeown, 25yds, 1; F. McDonald, 35yds, 2; J. Powell, scr, 3.

Running Long Jump.—J. M. O'Reilly, scr, 17ft 2in, 1; H. McKeown, 3in, 17ft 1in, 2.

Committeemen's Race, 100yds.—J. M. O'Reilly, 1; H. McKeown, 2; J. Kelly, 3.

Consolation Race, 100yds.—E. Lahman, 1; A. Guise, 2; Minogue, 3.

A tug-of-war between the local Hibernian Society and a team of 'all comers' was, after an exciting pull, won by the former.

AMONG THE BOOKS.

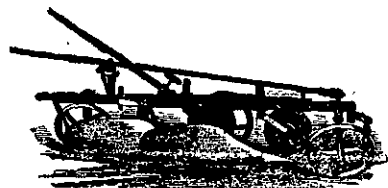
THE DRINK PROBLEM.

THE question of Prohibition—like the gentle porcupine—is not to be lightly touched. Thus far all the literature on the subject that has come under our notice has been marked by a great strength of feeling and of wind-power, and by an unpleasant vigour and frequency of epithet. These drawbacks are totally absent in the pamphlet *Two Wrongs—One Right: a Prohibition Mawim*, by 'Dunboy' (Otago Daily Times Office, 1s). The writer wields a facile pen and brings to the treatment of his subject a good deal of wit, shrewdness, and readiness of illustration. He is conspicuously friendly to the chiefs of the Prohibition movement, but, while a strong advocate of temperance, objects to the methods of the Prohibitionists, and disapproves of Prohibition on the ground that it is 'only an aggravation of the evil it seeks to remedy.' The pamphlet deals with the abuse of intoxicants, the question of compensation, throws a fuller light on Prohibition statistics, examines the efficacy of Prohibition, and concludes with a well-reasoned exposition of what the author conceives to be the true remedy for the drink evil. Chief among the remedial factors 'Dunboy' very properly places the benign influence and moral restraint of religion. He sounds a true note when he warns legislators and reformers that their efforts will be of little avail unless they begin with the school. 'The most important factor of all for the regeneration of a people,' he says, 'is the proper training of the children and the healthy guidance of youth.' Congregations decline, drink and depravity are rampant in this free Colony 'simply because religion is neither taught to the child, nor respected by the adult. In arithmetic, in grammar, even in natural philosophy and physiology our children have been instructed—some say crammed. For five days in the week, secular knowledge has been fairly driven into the weary brain of the child. Not only has he had to work by day—the night comes and finds him still toiling, with a basket of books at his elbow. On Saturday he attends the football matches or takes other much needed recreation, but in the evening, or on Sunday he is again deep in his "home work." What time is there for training the child in virtue? Even if all children attended Sunday school, is virtue, is religion such an easy task, such a self-evident proposition, that "he who runs may read" and learn its lessons? The clergy are now very busy on 'prohibition platforms trying to stem the tide of vice. What steps have they taken during the last 30 years to teach virtue? Is it not a fact that the religious training of two generations in this Colony has been almost entirely neglected by the very men who now profess horror at the moral state of the people? To fit a people for the battle of life, they should be taken in hand while still young. They should not be simply taught to avoid temptation, for no one can ever hope to escape the trial. The child should be taught to esteem and practise virtue: he should be carefully trained for the welfare of life. . . . A sermon or two on Sunday to a tithe of the people—a lesson on Sunday to one in five of the children, may by you be considered sufficient, but experience shows daily that religion is fast losing its hold upon the people. The scant attendance at public worship, the prevalence of divorce, the reduction in the birth rate—all tell their tale, and point out to you, my reverend friends, a wide field of usefulness. Your remedy for the evil is an attempt to suppress one vice; mine would be the inculcation of all the virtues and deencies of life. We both have the same object in view, but differ widely as to the best method for its attainment. My method in brief is to attend to the education of the young; to build up the character of our youth that they may become good and virtuous men and women; to teach domestic economy to girls in the schools, and to adults in all the centres of population, that home may be esteemed for its attractiveness; to improve the condition of the people generally and to abolish the slums of all cities, and, finally, to treat the drunkard with kindness, and rather cure him of his disease than punish him for his offence. To this I would add a rigid enforcement of the licensing laws, and an equitable measure for relieving those who are driven by excessive rents into the breaking of the law. Of the clergy of this Colony I have some questions to ask:—How have you spent your time during the last 30 years? Have you been unremitting in your endeavours to impart to the young a sound moral training? Have you not rather avoided the task, and simply hailed as perfect a system of education which absorbed all the time and attention of the children in the acquirement of secular knowledge only? Do you seriously think that Christianity is being fostered among the rising generation of this Colony? . . . The statement has been made that this sudden awakening of the clergy, and their hasty rallying around Mr. Isitt, may be traced to an apprehension, almost amounting to a conviction, that they are losing their hold on the colonial public. I fear there is some foundation for the statement. History is writing itself rapidly in this Britain of the South. Covert sneer and innuendo are no longer employed to discredit Christ's teaching. Religion is being openly assailed on all sides. Doubt, scepticism, and indifference are but the prelude to open revolt. The Sceptic, the Agnostic, the Infidel are abroad, and are marching on apace—no longer with stealthy footfall, but with the firm, unswerving tread and discordant carnage of revolutionists. . . . Reverend sirs, I trust you will pardon a word of warning from a mere layman, and it is this: That, unless you speedily and materially change your methods, the unfolding cycles of time will find you preaching Christ—the Stranger to Prohibition—to a generation who shall be strangers to Christ.'

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