

New Zealand Herald

TWENTY-SEVENTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION.

VOL. XXVII.—No. 48.

DUNEDIN: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1899.

PRICE 6D.

Current Topics

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

SUNDAY BATTLES.

THERE seems a strange incongruity of association between the 'peaceful Sunday morning' and the noise and fury and hot red work of war. From the twelfth to the fourteenth centuries the Church succeeded to a great extent in preventing bloodshed between Wednesday and Monday in the many private wars of that stormy period. Nowadays the grim work of war knows no cessation beyond the brief truce that follows a battle in order to give succour to the wounded and burial to the dead. And Sunday is no more sacred than Monday to the fighting man. Quite a notable percentage of the naval and military conflicts of the Spanish-American War took place on Sunday. A correspondent points out to us that the battle of Ladysmith, which ended so disastrously for the Royal Irish, the Gloucesters, and the tenth battery of artillery, began on a Sunday evening. The inference that the disaster was due to the day selected for action is scarcely sustainable. It is a curious coincidence that many of the striking victories of what is a Sunday-resting, if not a Sunday-sanctifying, people should have been won on the seventh day of the week. Thus, in the Marlborough campaigns, during the War of the Spanish Succession, the great battle of Ramilies was won by Marlborough on Whit-Sunday, May 23, 1706; Oudenarde on Sunday, July 11, 1709; and Malplaquet on Sunday, September 11, 1709. Sunday battles led to Sunday victories for the British troops with tolerable frequency during the long struggle which raged between England and France from 1793 to 1815, and which involved the belligerents in the enormous expenditure of £1,250,000,000, and 1,900,000 lives. At least five such Sunday victories are recorded. They are:—Vimiera, Sunday, August 21, 1808; Ciudad Rodrigo, Sunday, January 19, 1812; Orthes, Sunday, February 27, 1814; Toulouse, Easter Sunday, April 10, in the same year; and Waterloo, Sunday, June 18, 1815. One of the decisive battles of the First Sikh War—that of Ferozeshah—was won by Sir Hugh Gough on Sunday, December 21, 1845. Two important Sunday victories marked the progress of the Second Burmese War. Rangoon was stormed and captured on Easter Sunday, April 14, 1852; and Pegu met with a similar fate on Sunday, November 21, of the same year. And, not to mention later dates, the hard-fought 'soldiers' battle' of Inkerman was won by the French and British allies against the unexpected onslaught of the Russians on Sunday, November 5, 1854. The list might be greatly extended by any one who has time and patience to wade through the military annals of the British Empire. According to Mulhall, Great Britain has in less than 300 years expended £1,359,000,000 on war. A goodly percentage of this enormous waste would, undoubtedly, be piled up by military occupations that broke 'the peace of the Sabbath morn.'

A CORRESPONDENT asks us to give a forecast of the probable cost of the Transvaal campaign in blood and treasure, and wants WHO PAYS? to know who is to pay the little bill when it falls due. As to the first query: We are not a prophet nor the son of a prophet, and are satisfied to await eventualities and let others add up the butcher's bill for us. The second question is more easily answered. The brunt of the cost in good red blood will come out of the veins of the British working and industrial classes, and in minted sovereigns out of their pockets. And the end of it all will be that Thomas Atkins will win a certain bedraggled glory, and the capitalists will pocket the profits. In the very unlikely event of the Transvaal and the Orange Free State retaining their independence at the close of the campaign, they would naturally be mulcted in a pretty heavy war indemnity. Great Britain, however, has not done as well as some of the continental countries in the matter of war indemnities. She received two indemnities from China—one

of £4,000,000, and the other, in 1860, of £2,000,000, or less than one third of the vote of credit for the war. China paid to Japan for the late war £37,000,000—a sum which works out at £160 for each Japanese soldier engaged in the campaign, or £12 per week per man. France's indemnity to Germany for the war of 1870-71 amounted to £200,000,000. Leaving out of account the ceded territory, this vast sum was equivalent to £7 per man per week for every German soldier engaged, or £1000 for every man that was killed in battle or died of wounds or disease. A few years before lobbying this enormous indemnity Prussia had received £8,350,000 from Austria, as well as £750,000 in requisitions, for the brief campaign that ended at Sadowa in 1866. The Prussian losses were 11,000 men, so that the indemnity meant £850 for every man lost, and £5 per week for every man engaged. The present struggle in South Africa will be an enormously costly one both for Boer and Briton, and will probably so cripple the resources of the two republics that the payment of a war indemnity by them will be out of the question. The other alternative is the loss of their independence. And this was the cry of the British jingo party all along.

CANCELLED STAMPS AND OTHER 'REFUSE.'

DICKENS's 'golden dustman' gives but a poor idea of the thousand and one uses which are found nowadays for the supposedly waste products of the dust-heaps and the dust-bin. Boxes, old iron, rags, 'breeze,' paper, glass, broken crockery, etc., are separated and put to hundreds of industrial uses, and the refractory residue is, at least in London, fed into furnace boilers and converted into electric energy. There is an unfailing demand for the residual bones of the joint which you have discussed at table. The great wealth and manufacturing activity of England has attracted towards herself the old bones of half the Continent of Europe—and not merely the bones of the lower animals, but even human bones, are said to have at one time formed part of the trade. For Simmons, in his *Waste Products*, tells how many an ancient battle-field has been searched and turned over for their valuable remains, which have been duly ground down, treated with sulphuric acid, and turned into fertilisers to grow our wheat or furnish grass to fatten our bees. And thus the old bone goes to form and nourish new bones, and the threat of the giant to Jack is, after all, no fairy tale:—

Let him be live,
Or let him be dead,
I'll grind his bones to make my bread.

The cause of religion and charity has been notably and directly advanced by this new spirit of enterprise which finds a use and purpose for a thousand unconsidered trifles which our fathers would have cast into harbour or river to defile them. Thus, a great hospital at Munich (Bavaria) is entirely supported by the sale of old steel pens and nibs. They are collected from all parts of Germany, sold to manufacturers, and in due time are turned into watch-springs, pen-knives, razors, etc. In one of our issues of last year we showed how a great charitable and educational institute in Belgium is kept afloat by the sale of all sorts of odds and ends, such as old iron, rags, bits of glass, etc., which are daily brought or forwarded to the place by the pupils and friends of an enterprising and zealous community of nuns.

The stamp-collecting mania has, however, been turned to still better account, especially in connection with foreign missionary effort. The Society of the Holy Childhood rescues great numbers of female infants in China from death through the sale of postage-stamps. At least two Catholic missionary colleges are wholly or chiefly supported by the same means. One of these is the 'Bethlehem,' which educates poor children for the foreign mission; the other is the Congo Mission department of the Catholic Seminary at Liège, Belgium. In the one year, 1896, over 30,000,000 used stamps were received at the Seminary from all parts of the earth, and the income from their sale amounted to about £320. As many as 13,000,000 cancelled stamps have been received in furtherance of

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the great French missionary work of Mary Immaculate, whose operations extend over China, India, and other portions of the East. Here in New Zealand a spasmodic support is given to the Maori missions by small donations of used stamps, which the new postal regulations have tended to make as much a burden as a help to the Mill Hill Fathers. Unused stamps and postal notes would be both more welcome and more serviceable to the hard-wrought priests who have left their native land to cast their lot with the Maori for the Maori's sake. Fortunately, there is little danger of the usefulness of this source of revenue being impaired for a considerable time to come. The stamp-collecting hobby is said to be spreading, and hundreds of prominent people are taking it up in Great Britain and elsewhere. An enormous value attaches to some of these 'square inches of waste paper,' as the Philistine would be inclined to call the collector's rows of cancelled stamps. According to Mulhall, four Mauritius stamps were sold in London in 1895 for £210, and one blue Mauritius twopenny stamp for £140. A thousand pounds is said to be the highest price that ever changed hands over the transfer of a cancelled stamp. The purchase was effected in Berlin some time ago—we think it was about the beginning of the present year, and the tiny bit of printed paper that fetched the price was an insignificant-looking two-centimes stamp of British Guiana. There are two old stamps in existence which are said to be worth £2000—they are specimens of the penny and twopenny Mauritius issues of the date 1847. Mulhall gives in his *Dictionary of Statistics* for the present year curious evidence of the enormous money value that may be represented by first-class stamp collections. One collection was sold in Paris in 1880 for £8000. The purchaser was the Duchess Galiera, who is so well known for her princely benefactions to the poor of Genoa. The other sale was effected in London in 1897. It is described by Mulhall as 'a collection of Australian postage-stamps, begun in 1872 by Mr. Castle, of London.' The stamps were purchased by Mr. Stanley Gibbons for £10,000, £2000 more than the price paid by the Duchess of Galiera for her acquisition 17 years before. We have read somewhere that the Prince of Wales is the owner of a collection of stamps valued at £20,000. The mania has had a long run; a whole literature and a big trade have grown up around it; it has well outrun the short span of life usually enjoyed by fads; and thus far it shows no signs of abating.

TRIALS OF PATIENCE TO WHICH MARK TAPLEY FAILED TO ATTAIN THROUGH BEING BORN UNDER THE WRONG SKIES AND LIVING SO FAR BACK IN THE CENTURY.

The editorship of a Servian or German newspaper in the closing years of this model of all the centuries would have planted more crows'-feet about the corners of his eyes in one week than all the work and worry that he went through in the miasmatic swamplands known as the City of Eden. 'Within the last two years,' says a London contemporary, 'one weekly paper in Servia has had sixteen editors. Fifteen of them are in gaol for too keenly commenting upon Government affairs; and the sixteenth has just been hustled off to join them for the same offence? In France and Italy newspaper proprietors have struck upon the expedient of appointing a *gerente responsable*—usually a man of straw whose chief function is to suffer for the editor's sins, and go serenely to gaol when the Government takes offence at what it considers a too free or disrespectful or inconvenient criticism of its doings. In Germany an editor may treat the Deity with as much irreverence as he pleases; but he must be careful to avoid the most distant token of disrespect in speaking of the Shouting Kaiser Wilhelm. The dread charge of *lèse-majesté* hangs for ever like a drawn sword over the heads of German editors. During the months of August and September no fewer than sixteen of them were brought up under this charge. Every man of them was convicted, and their sentences amounted altogether to 139 months' imprisonment. 'During the first nine months of this year,' says a German paper, 'as many as 246 people were brought before the courts on the charge of wounding the emperor's dignity, and the sentences of imprisonment amounted to eighty-three years.' A few years more of this policy ought to make the German people weary both of their spineless courts of justice and of an over-sensitive imperial master who is simply a bundle of palpitating nerves.

THE REAR GUARD. CATHOLIC priests have their little afflictions in New Zealand as elsewhere, and one of the small blisters of the lives of many of them, both in town and country, is the action of the

groups of youths who congregate just within the church doors on Sundays and festival days at Mass and Vespers. The trouble is a wide-spread one. Some time ago it existed in an aggravated state in the church of the Paulist Fathers, New York. The nuisance continued unabated until the Fathers inserted the following five-minutes' sermon in their parish magazine, and distributed a copy of it to every frequenter of the church. Then the trouble abruptly ceased. The little sermon

is worth reproducing here, and might, perhaps, be read with benefit to Sundry congregations that are afflicted with the 'rear-guard' trouble in New Zealand:—

'To Young Men—We are annoyed and pained to see so many young men standing at the end of the church, and especially crowding around the doors, during the Masses on Sundays. We cannot believe that it is because they do not want to pay for a seat, for we know in many cases that their families have seats regularly in the church. They have gotten into a slovenly habit of just getting inside the door, so as to get out quickly when Mass is over. Then some of them seem to be ashamed to go up the aisle, afraid people might consider them pious or hypocrites. Young man, there is no danger of anyone considering you too pious because you give half-an-hour a week to God. You are bound to do that, whether you do it at the door on one knee, or up the body of the church, among your friends and relatives on both knees. Maybe you think people will consider you a hypocrite? Well, your life must be pretty bad during the week if you are afraid to be seen near the altar on Sunday. Some stand around the doors because they fancy they are not well enough dressed; some, indeed, because they have not enough to spare to make an offering for a seat, and therefore will not take even the free seats at the end. There is one class, however, for whom we have no sympathy; well-dressed and intelligent-looking fellows who have just enough conscience left that will not allow them to stay away from Mass on Sunday, but who fancy they are paying quite a compliment to the Lord and to His Church in deigning to enter the church at all. They stand there like great gawks; if it were not for the fact that they get down on one knee during the Consecration, you would fancy they were curious Protestants who dropped into the church and were afraid to take a seat, lest they might stick to it and be made Catholics by force. Now, young men, no matter what your reasons have been for standing at the back of the church, do us the favour and honour yourselves by coming right up like men into the body of the church. If Mass is worth attending, it is worth attending well.'

WE commend to the earnest attention of 'CIVIS,' of the *Otago Daily Times*, the following little bit of dialogue from Lewis Carroll's *Through the Looking Glass*. At the close of a discussion on birthday presents, Humpty Dumpty triumphantly says

to Alice:—

'There's glory for you.'
'I don't know what you mean by "glory,"' Alice said.
Humpty Dumpty smiled contemptuously. 'Of course you don't—till I tell you. I meant "there's a nice knock-down argument for you."'

'But "glory" doesn't mean "a nice knock-down argument,"' Alice objected.

'When I use a word,' Humpty Dumpty said, in a rather scornful tone, 'it means just what I choose it to mean—neither more nor less.'

'Civis,' in his 'Notes' of last Saturday set about bullying the English dictionary after the manner of Humpty Dumpty. He had the courage to say—but, with commendable prudence, did not attempt to show—that the series of impertinent questions put by him the previous week to the editor of the N. Z. TABLET were 'innocent' and addressed 'with all due civility.' Such a statement can be only true when he has forced a new meaning upon the words 'innocent' and 'civil.' We, for our part are accustomed to use words—the tools of speech—in their plain and obvious sense. Angry as he is, 'Civis' grants that we seem to have 'enjoyed to some extent the advantages of education.' At any rate we claim to know the face meaning of plain English sentences—his own included—quite as well as he. We have been at pains to point out the rank offensiveness of those questions and remarks of his which provoked the comments in our last issue. Not one scintilla of our direct remarks on this point has been denied, explained, or set aside by him. The animus and the offensive character of his whole 'Note' lay thickly-encrusted on its surface, like evil-smelling marsh-weeds upon a swamp. Its objectionable character is fully recognised not alone by many Catholics who were led by our remarks or otherwise to peruse 'Civis's' 'Note,' but, as we directly know, or are credibly informed, by Protestants of position and high culture who are resident in Dunedin.

* * *

1. From beginning to end there was not even the thin pretence of pleasantry in 'Civis's' offensive 'Note.' His 'due civility' opened with an undisguised sneer to the effect that the N. Z. TABLET had been engaged in a very doubtfully successful attempt to 'whitewash' the Catholic Church over her alleged connection with the Dreyfus case—a remark that was as untrue in fact as it was offensive in form. For the rest the 'Passing Note' we complained of was, through and through, a bit of thorough-paced and brazen-faced electioneering.

2. His series of impertinent questions included these: (a) Had the Catholic 'ecclesiastical authorities'—presumably the

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Bishops—come to an 'understanding' with the Government to influence all the votes they could in its favour? (b) What inducement 'had been offered by the Government 'in return' for this?

3. 'The TABLET editor' is supposed by 'Civis' to have a guilty knowledge of this little conspiracy between the Government and the Catholic Bishops. And to 'the TABLET editor' therefore 'Civis' goes, not for the purpose of getting information to which he was not entitled, but just to point out to his scanty readers that we dare not reply to his questions. His questions were, in fact, not queries, but impudent challenges which, despite a worthless verbal disclaimer, were plainly flung down with hostile intent with a view to benefit his party by arousing sectarian feeling.

4. 'Civis' twice distinctly states that he expected no reply from us. And he was entitled to none. But 'Civis's' mind was quite made up and his verdict given on the matter beforehand. For he says: 'Failing authoritative information [and he quite expected it to fail] we shall be able, putting two and two together, to form for ourselves a pretty accurate judgment.' Let it be borne in mind that even when our categorical reply was given to his questions, he, as we expressly anticipated, affects to regard our statement as untruthful. And this, too, when we are repelling a charge against our Bishops which, on the face of it, looks remarkably like a charge of political corruption.

5. The whole purpose of his queries is clearly manifested in his closing lines: 'These are questions upon which electors of all parties may with advantage chew the cud of reflection.' Just so. The questions are the main thing. They are sent out, with their replies predetermined, to soak into the minds of voters, and to create and spread the impression which 'Civis' conveys not merely by bold insinuation, but, in effect, by open and direct accusation. And the impression which his 'Note' has left is just this: that, in return for certain 'inducements,' the Catholic episcopate of New Zealand have entered into an arrangement or secret conspiracy to influence all the votes they can in favour of the Government. Nobody who is acquainted with the temper of New Zealand politics needs to be reminded that the merest hint of such a compact is highly calculated to arouse serious distrust and suspicion of the Catholic body throughout the Colony, and that the bold statement of it as conveyed by 'Civis,' is nothing more or less than the attempted introduction of sectarian strife and bitterness into the coming election contests. 'To touch politics is to touch pitch,' says Cardinal Newman. But an electioneering campaign becomes worse than a famine or a war when partisans on any side raise directly or indirectly a sectarian cry against 100,000 people for the benefit of a handful of politicians. And this is precisely what 'Civis's' 'Note' is, on the face of it, calculated to do. To call this 'innocent' and 'civil' is to do greater violence to the plain meaning of words than even Humpty Dumpty ever attempted. We venture to express the hope that there is not another journalist in New Zealand who would have written and sent for publication a 'Note' couched in the terms of that of 'Civis.' There is only one Church in the Colony that is a 'safe' and likely subject for electioneering tactics of this kind. But, even with the knowledge of this fact full before our minds, we would see our right hand lopped off joint by joint rather than address to the editors of the *Outlook* and the *New Zealand Guardian* the perky and vulgar and offensive challenge issued by 'Civis' to us. And we venture to say that even 'Civis' would not have dared to address them as he did us. And nevertheless he dares to lecture us on the matter of journalistic propriety.

The N.Z. TABLET and its staff, the Catholic bishops, and the Catholic voters are as fair subjects for fair comment as anybody else. Had 'Civis' limited himself to this we should have gone on quietly ignoring his existence, or have received his remarks, as we have done twice before, in perfect friendliness and good humour. If we had differed with him we would have differed inoffensively—as we have also done before. Thus we have smiles for his smiles and fair feeling for fair comment. But when he comes against us and ours with set face and naked steel, by naked steel we will meet him and cleave him down. In the case of tactics such as those of his 'Note' of Saturday week we neither give nor ask quarter. It is war to the knife. If our words cut him deep, we meant it. Our language was strong, designedly strong, but its necessity made it wholesome—just as the lash is often both necessary and wholesome. He fully deserved the chastisement he received, and we can never regret inflicting it. He has put himself in the unenviable position of unprovoked aggressor, and must abide by the consequences of his folly. Is he to issue his swaggering challenges to us and raise a popular clamour against the heads of our Church and the people whose feeble voice we are, in order to further the cause of a knot of politicians; and must we drug ourselves into unmanly feebleness and meet his bold attacks with whimperings and whisperings and apologetic lisps, lest, forsooth, he deem us lacking in politeness and sweetness to him? And this, too, in the face of his expressed determination to make use of our anticipated silence as a fresh argument to condemn

us? Politeness is good, and cleanliness is good. But a man may push urbanity so far as to cease to be a man, and he may rub the skin off his face in washing it. It disagrees with 'Civis' to have certain truths put forcibly. We knew it would disagree with him. Strong language is foreign to us, both by natural temperament and by acquired habit. But we recognise the fact that circumstances may arise which demand the use of strong, naked words that never knew a scabbard, even though they cut to the marrow or blister like pellets of molten lead. And in proportion as the evil is malignant and aggressive must the warning cry be strong. Writers in the *Otago Daily Times* do not content themselves with saying that the stench from the Dunedin foreshore is 'slightly disagreeable.' They say it is deadly poison, and a standing menace to the public health. If the assassin is coming to take your friend's life, you do not say that he sometimes displays a little temper. No. You cry out that he means murder; and that the hand behind his back grasps a loaded revolver, and you say it loud enough to be heard. In the same way when an unjust and unprovoked attack is made, as by 'Civis,' upon the peaceable and unoffending Catholic community, we will arraign him, we will do justice upon him according to the measure of his offending, and that, too, in fair round words that will hit with the impact of steel-tipped bullets. 'Kind words,' says a great, but little-known author, 'are like sweet draughts in the cup of life, like "a concert of music in a banquet of wine." But the sick man's potion is often bitter, and the trumpet blows a shrill blast when the enemy is at the gate.'

'Civis' flatly denies the statement that any verbal transcript from 'Oriel' ever appeared in his columns. We were at one and the same time readers both of 'Civis' and of 'Oriel.' We do not know whether 'Civis' is in a position to speak with as enthusiastic positiveness of the work of his collaborators or contributors as of his own. At any rate, we have no hesitation in accepting his statement of fact to the fullest extent that his personal knowledge goes. But we must protest against his giving a general statement of ours a purely personal application to the editor of the *Otago Daily Times*, and by this petty trick making it appear that we were guilty of an 'obvious falsehood.' The only remarks we made of the *Times* editor in that connection were that he had opened his columns to certain correspondence. We added that we suspected the *bona fides* of a part of it. The first is an undenied and undeniable statement of fact. The second is an expression of opinion which may be warranted or not, but which in no case can be shown to cast any imputation upon the editor of the *Otago Daily Times*. We have since learned that there is a rule in the office of at least one New Zealand daily prohibiting letters to the editor for publication from any member of the staff. We shall be quite prepared to believe that a similar rule or custom exists in the office of the *Otago Daily Times*. In the meantime we have to acknowledge the fair *amende* which the editor makes in putting a stop to the correspondence to which we referred, and which was simply calculated to arouse sectarian feeling and suspicion and to injure, instead of serving, the cause it was intended to promote. On the other hand, we were entitled to assume that 'Civis's' ill-meant and ill-advised paragraph of November 18 passed under, and met the approval of, the editorial eye. If it did, then the editor's responsibility in allowing its publication is even greater than 'Civis's' in writing it.

Correspondence.

[We are not responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

'CIVIS' AND THE N.Z. TABLET.

WE have received several written communications commendatory of our action with regard to 'Civis.' One plea in favour of 'Civis' has likewise come to hand. It is written by a personal friend of his, and is marked by a gentleness of sentiment which at once ensures its insertion, although it manifestly quite fails to grasp, or even touch, the point of view from which we conceived and conceive it to be our duty to deal with 'Civis.' We may add that 'Civis' and his collaborators are quite unknown to us, whether personally or otherwise. The following is the letter referred to:—

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—I am grieved at the treatment you have dealt out to our dear and venerable friend 'Civis.' I am afraid you have made the mistake of taking him seriously. When you know him as well as his friends do, you will do so no longer. We all like old 'Civis' immensely. That is why we laugh at his jokes so. And then they are so easy to see: no digging out required. Even a Scotchman can see them—sometimes. It is really too bad to find him mauled about like this, and he doesn't like it. You see, he has, any time during the past ten years, been accustomed to have his little dig at St.

Joseph's and the TABLET with impunity; and now forsooth, because he tries to score a point off the TABLET again, he is treated in a manner that well nigh staggers him. No wonder he is angry and disgusted. I don't think 'Civis' will offend again. Indeed, I am sure he won't; but if by any chance he should, please be more gentle with him for the sake of those who love him. He is getting on in years now, as you may have gathered from some of his more recent 'Notes.' Don't mistake me: he is not in his dotage yet, for has he not lately demonstrated with amazing clearness that the year 1900 is not finished till it is ended? One of his readers wanted him to believe otherwise, but 'Civis' proved him to be wrong in a 'note' of about a quarter of a column. His intellect is, therefore, as you see, quite unimpaired, but excitement is not good for him; and he doesn't like to be contradicted; and he has corns, too, though he pretends he hasn't; and nobody likes corns trodden upon—his own. Of course we don't mind 'Civis' treading on our corns occasionally, and heavily, too; but his corns—that is quite another matter.—I am, etc.,

'SUA VITER IN MODO.'

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

THE General Election takes place on Wednesday, December 6. Not for many years has there been so little interest taken in this political event as on the present occasion. The South African war or even the dredging boom in Otago has more interest for numbers of people than politics. The Colony is admitted to be in a very prosperous condition, and this may account in some measure for the apathy of the people. There are no burning questions to excite the enthusiasm of the electors, and the politicians at both sides have failed to put forward any programme which would appeal directly to the classes or the masses. The stalest item of war news has more interest for the average newspaper reader than the speeches of Mr. Seddon or Captain Russell. Notwithstanding the natural increase in population, and the increased facilities for enrolment, it is expected the number of votes cast on this occasion will be less than in 1896.

There is one aspect of the present electoral campaign which ought to be highly gratifying to the people of this Colony, and it is this that despite the fact that we have sent away over two hundred of the flower of our manhood to fight the Boers, still there is no lack of good men and true ready to place their services at the disposal of the constituencies for the next three years, and fight the battles of the people in the more peaceful arena in Parliament House. As we cannot elect all our political aspirants the next best thing we can do is to select those whom we consider most worthy. There ought to be no great difficulty in making a selection, as the number of candidates for each constituency, except in a few instances, runs from two to ten. Several of these have only come forward at the earnest solicitation of friends to whom their worth is well known, but it must not be forgotten that this disinclination to woo the suffrages of the electors has not been due to any lack of patriotism but rather to that innate modesty which is a kind of hall mark of the average politician.

Leaving out the Maori electorates there have been close on 190 candidates 'feeling' their way during the past few months. Captain Russell, Mr. John McKeezie, Mr. Ward, and Major Stewart are the only candidates who are not opposed. There are seven candidates for Dunedin City, ten for Christchurch, eleven for Wellington, and twelve for Auckland, three members being required in each case. Of the constituencies requiring one member Ohinemuri seems to be the most popular with ten candidates, whilst Selwyn comes next with six. There are four candidates each for Manukau, Palmerston North, Wellington Suburbs, Lyttelton, Ashburton, and Clutha. There have been about 90 Ministerialists, 65 Oppositionists, and the balance composed of Left Wingers and Independents offering their services to the electors, but it is not likely this number will go to the Polls.

The following were the candidates announced up to the beginning of the week:—O indicating Opposition, M Ministerial, I Independent, L W Left Wing, L Labour.

AUCKLAND.

Eden.—J. Bolland (O), M. Niccol (M).
Ohinemuri.—J. M. Shera (M), E. B. Moss (I), J. Palmer (M), W. Deeble (O), L. De Bakker (M), M. J. Stewart (M), W. McCullough (M).—Ross.—Drummond Colclough.
Waipatu.—J. Carroll (M), J. C. Dunlop (M), H. J. Finn (I).
Auckland City.—W. Crowther (O), R. Hobbs (O), J. J. Holland (M), W. J. Napier (M), F. E. Baume (M), J. Regan (M), A. Rosser (M), P. Quinlan (M), G. Fowlds (I), R. French (I), W. Peacock (O), S. Vaile (O).
Bay of Plenty.—W. H. Herries (O), J. Lundon (M).
Bay of Islands.—R. M. Houston (M), N. McLeod (O).
Waikato.—F. W. Lang (O), Rev. Dr. Hosking (M).
Parnell.—F. Lawry (M), H. Campbell (O), J. C. Allen (O).
Thames.—J. McGowan (M), E. H. Taylor (I), H. J. Greenslade (M).
Franklin.—W. E. Massey (O), W. F. Wilson (M).
Waitemata.—R. Monk (O), C. Newman (M), E. Ford (M).
Manukau.—Sir G. M. O'Rorke (M), F. Hull (O), W. F. Buckland (O), J. E. Taylor (I).
Marsden.—R. Thompson (M), H. Simson (O), G. E. Alderton (M).

TARANAKI.

Taranaki.—H. Brown (O), E. M. Smith (M).
Hawera.—F. McGuire (O), C. E. Major (M), D. L. Astbury (M).
Egmont.—W. Symes (M), W. Monkhouse (O).

HAWKE'S BAY.

Waipawa.—G. Hunter (O), C. Hall (M).
Napier.—R. D. D. McLeah (O), A. L. D. Fraser (M).
Hawke's Bay.—W. R. Russell (O).

WELLINGTON.

Wairarapa.—W. C. Buchanan (O), C. Phillips (I), J. T. M. Hornsby (M).
Wanganui.—G. Carson (O), A. D. Willis (M), J. M. Murphy (M).
Wellington City.—G. Fisher (M), J. Hutcheson (O), A. R. Atkinson (O), T. K. Macdonald (M), E. G. Jellicoe (M), W. H. Stewart (M), W. Earnshaw (I), T. W. Hislop (O), C. M. Luke (M), R. E. Hornblow (M), T. Carmichael.
Otaki.—H. A. Field (M), C. B. Morison (O).
Masterton.—A. W. Hogg (M), T. Parsons (O).
Patea.—G. Hutcheson (O), A. E. Remington (M).
Rangitikei.—F. Lethbridge (O), T. B. Taylor (M).
Pahiatua.—J. O'Meara (M), G. H. Smith (O), J. Vile (I).
Palmerston.—F. Pirani (L W), D. Grant (M), D. Buick (O), W. Wood (M).
Manawatu.—J. Stevens (M), R. C. Bruce (O).
Wellington Suburbs.—A. K. Newman (O), T. M. Wilford (M), R. C. Kirk (M), R. G. Knight (I).

NELSON.

Nelson City.—J. Graham (M), R. Hursthouse (O).
Motueka.—B. McKenzie (M), W. J. Moffatt (O).
Buller.—P. J. O'Regan (M), J. Colvin (M).
Wairau.—C. H. Mills (M), W. Clifford (O).

CANTERBURY.

Geraldine.—F. R. Flatman (M), C. N. Macintosh (I), S. Buxton (M), J. Fraser (O).
Timaru.—W. Hall-Jones (M), F. H. Smith (O).
Lyttelton.—J. Joyce (M), — Jackson (O), G. Laurenson (M) W. Jacques (O).
Christchurch City.—O. Lewis (O), G. J. Smith (L W), T. E. Taylor (L W), W. W. Collins (M), J. Greig (O), R. Green (O), H. G. Eli (M), Charles Taylor (L), A. H. Turnbull (M), M. Donnelly (O).
Ashley.—R. Meredith (M), T. H. Caverhill (O).
Ellesmere.—W. H. Montgomery (M), B. H. Rhodes (O).
Kaiaipo.—R. Moore (O), D. Buddo (M), J. M. Verrall (I).
Riccarton.—W. Rolleston (O), G. W. Russell (M).
Waitaki.—W. J. Stewart (M).
Avon.—W. W. Tanner (M), A. E. G. Rhodes (O).
Selwyn.—J. Barrett (M), J. Rennie (I), — Holmes (O), Kenneth Wilson (M), C. A. C. Hardy (O), J. Woodward (M).
Ashburton.—J. McLauchlan (M), W. Maslin (I), J. McKeague (M), C. J. Harper (O).

WESTLAND.

Grey.—A. R. Guinness (M), M. Hannen (M).
Westland.—R. J. Seddon (M), L. Northcroft (O).

OTAGO.

Oamaru.—T. Y. Duncan (M), J. A. Macpherson (M).
Waikouaiti.—E. G. Allen (M), J. White (O).
Taieri.—W. C. F. Carncross (M), A. C. Begg (O).
Wakatipu.—W. Fraser (O), J. Kelly (M).
Wallace.—M. Gilfedder (M), A. Carmichael (O).
Invercargill.—J. W. Kelly (L W), J. A. Hanan (M).
Dunedin City.—M. J. S. Mackenzie (O), J. A. Millar (M), A. Sligo (O), A. R. Barclay (M), J. F. Arnold (M), C. R. Chapman (I), C. Haynes (O).
Caversham.—A. Morrison (M), W. H. Warren (I).
Waihemo.—J. McKenzie (M).
Bruce.—J. Allen (O), J. C. Anderson (M).
Tnapuka.—C. C. Rawlins (O), J. Bennett (M), A. Fraser (M).
Clutha.—J. W. Thomson (O), J. McNeil (O), Finlay McLeod (M), A. S. Malcolm (I).
Awarua.—J. G. Ward (M).

THE BOER WAR.

LADYSMITH.

The following description of Ladysmith will be of interest at the present time. Ladysmith is situated on the eastern side of a range of low hills which run in a northerly direction towards Glencoe and the northerly towns. This range does not carry any other vegetation than grass and low thorn bushes; excellent cover, however, is afforded skirmishers by large boulders of a kind of ironstone which are liberally strewn about the hillsides and crests. A gorge through the hills just above Ladysmith gives passage to the Klip River, which flows between the town and the hills in a southward direction, until it crosses the road which leads from Ladysmith south and west, when it turns sharply and runs north to a point about opposite the gorge before mentioned, whence its course is eastward. This has the effect of giving the town a horseshoe form, the railway line passing on the east side of the river, and the station being situated at the N.E. end of the town, immediately beyond the bridge by which the river is crossed.

The town is laid off in squares, but there is really one street only of any importance, running north and south, and this crosses the river at the bend of the horseshoe, and the road then trends westward and crosses the hills, after which it branches southward towards Colenso and westward towards Van Reenan's and other passes. After crossing the hills, which are three-quarters of a mile to a mile across, the country to the westward, extending towards the Drakenberg mountains, is of a rolling nature, the isolated hills (found all over South Africa), termed 'kopjes,' being dotted about.

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The road north from Ladysmith to Elands Laagte (which, by the way, means the slaughtering place of elands, a kind of deer) and beyond, follows the hills along their eastern slopes, and the country to the eastward is of the rolling nature before referred to, till low hills are met again at a distance of from three to six miles. From this account it will appear that the crest of the range above Ladysmith overlooks the country east and west for a considerable distance. The Tugela river, which, being in flood, has been mentioned as a barrier to the passage of the Free Staters south, is rapid and runs between high banks, but does not long remain swollen, and at other times may be easily crossed.

There are excellent roads leading from Van Reenan's and Bezuidenhout's passes towards Colenso and Estcourt, and the country is open, so that the Free Staters should have little trouble in advancing within striking range of these towns. However, by doing so, they would be a long way from their base, and in the event of reinforcements arriving quickly would be in danger of being nipped between General White's troops and the new arrivals. Colenso is situated on a flat on the south bank of the Tugela, and is entirely dominated by higher ground on the northern bank, which is precipitous.

PRESIDENT KRUGER.

Mr. Lecky's appreciation of President Kruger at the opening meeting of the College Historical Society in the University of Dublin, three years ago, is of interest at the present moment. He said of the President of the Transvaal Republic: 'I can speak of him with some personal knowledge. He has been more than once in my house, and I have come in contact with several men who have known him well. In many respects he resembles strikingly the stern Puritan warrior of the Commonwealth—a strong, stubborn man, with indomitable courage and resolution, with very little tinge of cultivation, but with a rare and natural shrewdness in judging men and events, he impresses all who come in contact with him with the extraordinary force of his nature. He is the father of no less than seventeen children. He belongs to a sect called the Doppers, which is derived from a Dutch word for an extinguisher, because they are desirous of extinguishing all novelties since the Synod of Dorp. Ardently religious, he is said to believe as strongly as Wesley in a direct personal inspiration guiding him in his acts. He is a great hunter of the most savage wild beasts. One finger is wanting on one of his hands: it was broken in a hunting expedition, and it is a characteristic trait that he then and there amputated it himself. In a semi-regal position, and with even more than regal power, he lives the life of a peasant, and although, I believe, an essentially just, wise, and strong man, he has all his countrymen's dread of an immigration of an alien element, and all their dislike and suspicion of an industrial and mining community.'

A SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ON THE CAUSE OF THE WAR.

From time to time we have given the opinions of persons holding diametrically opposite views on the Transvaal question. We now place before our readers the opinion of Mr. Brenton, a son of ex-Alderman Brenton, of Broken Hill, South Australia, who has just returned from the Transvaal, which he left about the end of September. He is positive that war was brought about by the capitalists and Jingoos. Of the 40,000 or so white men employed on the Rand—there are sixty miles of reef, he says—a vote would show that the majority are as emphatic and of the same opinion as himself. 'The franchise,' he added; 'that was all nonsense. You remember that petition with twenty-one thousand odd signatures sent to Queen Victoria, asking her to intervene on behalf of the Uitlanders. Most of those signatures were bought at a shilling a piece. I suppose my name is on that petition, but I never placed it there. I knew, say, 500 men on the field, but I never met a man who had signed it. Canvassers were sent round by some capitalists, and a shilling was the price of a signature. I knew of a case where a man sat down and wrote twelve signatures of men whose names he knew. The men don't want the franchise. If they had it they would not use it. Those who have been on the field seven years and can get it don't trouble themselves to get it. They are quite satisfied with things as they are. I tell you,' he added, 'the Transvaal is all right for the miner. See how independent he can be! Sixty miles of reef, and companies all along the reef. If a miner leaves one company, all he has to do is to go to the next one.' Asked why the mining companies and capitalists desired war when so many of the workers were opposed to it, Mr. Brenton replied: 'There are about 100,000 Kaffirs employed on the Rand mines, but under Boer laws. These Kaffir workmen will never be a serious menace to white workmen, but under English rule it is feared that things will be different. A few miles from Pretoria there is another goldfield said to be as extensive and fully as rich as the Rand. Kruger was requested to proclaim a goldfield. He refused, saying he had already one—Johannesburg—and that had caused enough agitation for him.' The newspaper accounts of Boer brutality and incivility to the Uitlanders were scouted by Mr. Brenton. It was admitted that they treat their Kaffir servants barbarously; but some of the Englishmen were just as bad, and it was no uncommon thing to see Englishmen belting the Kaffirs with drills. Hundreds of refugees were leaving Johannesburg at the same time as he did; and these, according to the cables, were cruelly ill-used by the Boers. There was there, yet saw none of the ill-usage. Even at the time of the Jameson raid the Boers were quite civil to the English. They knew that the workers were not responsible for the trouble. When a Boer entered a saloon he usually raised his hat in salutation to any Englishman who might be present. An incident illustrating the feelings of the Boers towards the various personages who are at present looming large in the eyes of the world was related by Mr. Brenton. Two Hollanders entered a saloon. A drunken cousin Jack called for three cheers for the Queen. The Hollanders lifted their hats. Another cousin Jack called for three cheers for Joe Chamberlain, and there was trouble on the instant. Cecil Rhodes and Chamberlain, Mr. Brenton asserts, are blamed for the whole of the present trouble.

VARIOUS.

The Rev. John Ferguson, preaching recently at St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church, Sydney, said the Transvaal war had to a great extent been brought about by a false sense of pride through the assertion that the prestige of Great Britain was at stake; by the lust of gold and territory; by the spirit of revenge, and the uncharitable construction put upon the actions of the Boers. All these motives were entirely opposed to the teachings of Christ. He urged that it would have been better if the British colonies had sent memorials in favour of universal peace to the late Peace Congress, or devoted the money now being spent in sending troops to a fund for the relief of all the widows and children who lost bread-winners through the war.

Major-General Sir Francis Clery, who has been appointed to command one of the divisions against the Boers, is a Catholic. The gallant soldier is the author of several excellent works on military tactics.

Diocesan News.

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

November 25.

The prizes won at St. Patrick's College sports meeting are to be presented on Sunday.

The Rev. Father Keegan, for many years stationed in the archdiocese, is now a curate in a parish in London.

The midsummer entertainment and annual distribution of prizes at St. Patrick's College will take place on Thursday evening.

On Wednesday, the Feast of St. Cecilia, St. Cecilia's Choir of St. Mary's Convent, rendered some exceptionally choice music during the holy sacrifice of the Mass in honour of the patron saint.

The date on which the examinations for the two annual scholarships given by St. Patrick's College will be held is not yet definitely settled, but they will probably take place between the 11th and 18th of December.

At the first Mass on Sunday at St. Joseph's Church 13 of the students of St. Patrick's College received their First Communion. The Rev. Father Herbert, who prepared the boys, celebrated the Mass and preached an instructive sermon.

Tickets for an art union in connection with the Easter bazaar, having for its object the furnishing of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart when completed, are now being printed, and will shortly be in circulation. Besides very many good prizes there are about a dozen oil paintings, varying in value from £10 to £100.

The General Election campaign is now fairly under way. This week's meetings have been of a somewhat rowdy nature. It is now announced that the candidates who are to receive the Government support are Messrs. T. K. Macdonald and C. Luke. A third has not yet been decided on, and it is quite likely that only two will be run.

The Rev. Father Coffey, of South Dunedin, was in Wellington this week. He came for the purpose of meeting his sister who arrived from Home on Friday. She is a Dominican Nun and on her way to Dunedin. The Rev. Father Smyth, of Hastings, who is Father Coffey's cousin, was also on the wharf on the arrival of the steamer.

The entertainment given by the Dixon street School children in aid of the school requisites was, in consequence of the large numbers unable to gain admission at the previous productions, repeated on Monday, when the hall was well filled. The children deserve great praise for their efforts. The financial result of the entertainment was highly satisfactory.

A general meeting of St. Mary's Convent ex-Pupils' Association was held in the Convent on Tuesday evening. It was announced that donations amounting to over £50 towards the cost of the Sisters' cottage at Titahi Bay, had been received from friends outside the Association. It was decided that in view of the many calls at present being made on the Catholics of the city to postpone the proposed garden party until after the Easter bazaar.

WANGANUI.

(From our own correspondent.)

November 24.

The statement I made a short time ago concerning Rev. Father Tymons should have read as follows:—'The people will, no doubt, feel highly gratified when they know that Rev. Father Tymons is the first priest born and educated in New Zealand who has been entrusted with the sole charge of a parish.'

At a meeting of the St. Columba Literary and Debating Club held last night, the prizes won during the session were presented by the Very Rev. Dean Kirk. The prize donated by the president (Father Tymons) for the best essay on the work of a standard English author, was won by Mr. E. Loftus. The same member also carried off the Dean's prize for the most useful member during the session. The former prize consisted of the *Popular Educator* (Casell's) in six vols., and the latter was *Chambers's Cyclopædia of English Literature* (two vols.).

The promoters of the farewell social tendered last week to Rev. Father Tymons have every reason to be satisfied with the success that attended their efforts. St. Mary's Hall was crowded in every part, and the proceedings throughout were most enthusiastic. As a

full report appeared in your last issue, I shall not go into details. On November 16, the Rev. Father Tymons was invited to pay a visit to the Marist Brothers' School, and was presented by the pupils with a nicely-worded address and a voluminous dictionary, handsomely bound, and bearing the following appropriate words on the binding:—'A friend in need is a friend indeed.'

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND.

(From our own correspondent.)

November 23.

Rev. Father Kehoe, I am pleased to state, has so far recovered as to be able to resume charge of the Parnell parish.

The Rev. Canon Bates (Anglican) speaking from his pulpit in Remuera last Sunday said, 'The present war in South Africa is one of greed and territory grabbing. If there had been no gold mines there would have been no war.'

The Auckland Catholic Cemetery Board met last Friday evening at St. Benedict's Presbytery, the Rev. Father Gillan presiding. It was decided to commence at once operations for the renovation of the Symond Street Cemetery. A first contract, with this object, was subsequently given out.

The Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan has written under date October 12, from Liverpool, whence he was going to his old Seminary in London to officiate, after which he was to start for Spain. At Valladolid our dear Bishop would no doubt receive a hearty welcome from his old college where he spent so many years of his life.

The quarterly criminal sittings of the Supreme Court were suspended on Tuesday last owing to the illness of the Crown Prosecutor, the Hon. J. A. Tole, who, on the previous day, had conducted his business under very apparent difficulties. It is to be hoped the popular counsel may soon be restored to health.

The public meeting called by the Chairman of the Harbour Board to protest against the handing over of Samoa to Germany ended most ingloriously. During the recent trouble at the island our Press and public men in Auckland looked upon Samoa as indispensable to the Colony, but in an especial manner indispensable to this city. Why is Samoa now dispensable?

The district officers of the H.A.C.B. Society have decided to wait upon the Premier, who is due in Auckland in a few days, and point out to him the hardship entailed by members of the society throughout the Colony in having to stamp receipts for society moneys, which the officers will contend is diametrically opposed to the spirit and letter of the Friendly Societies Act.

The Rev. Mother Paul, of the Sisters of Mercy, is, I regret to say, very dangerously ill at St. Mary's Convent, Ponsonby. The Rev. Mother has been for years associated with every good work pertaining to the education and advancement of the young in Auckland City and province. There are many now advanced in years who fondly cherish and remember her good and kindly advice to them.

The Very Rev. Monsignor Hoyne, V.G., of Ballarat, arrived from the South last Saturday morning, and said the first Mass on Sunday at St. Patrick's. The Rev. Father Kelsh, of Westbury, Tasmania, also arrived from the South on the same day and celebrated last Mass at the Cathedral. Both rev. gentlemen were the guests, while in Auckland, of the Very Rev. Dean O'Reilly. They intend to visit the Lake district.

The Rev. Father O'Connor, who was ordained to the priesthood on the Feast of the Assumption in Ireland, by the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan, arrived in Auckland last Sunday afternoon. He is under orders to proceed to Gisborne en route to the Rev. Father Mulvihill. By the steamer to Australia with Father O'Connor there were sixteen nuns and seven priests. One of the former, Sister Margaret Mary, of the Dominican Order, passed through Auckland this week en route to Dunedin, accompanied by Miss Prendergast, a niece of Mother Ignatius and Sister Mary Columba of the Sisters of Mercy, Auckland, a postulant for the Dunedin Dominican Convent.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

November 27.

The Rev. Father Coffey, of South Dunedin, is the guest of the Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Cheneais at the Presbytery, during a brief visit to this city. He celebrated the 9.30 a.m. Mass in the Pro-Cathedral on Sunday, and was afterwards driven to Mount Magdala.

With characteristic astuteness the Prohibition party have prominently erected opposite a leading brewery, a signboard, on which is inscribed in capitals, a notable utterance of Archbishop Ireland, delivered by this eminent prelate at Cork during a recent visit there. This clearly shows that our would-be latter-day reformers fully realise the importance and influence of pronouncements emanating from Catholic ecclesiastical leaders on the drink question, as well as upon other matters of vital interest.

After concluding his mission at Little River and Akaroa, where conjointly, the Cathedral Building Fund was increased by over £200, his Lordship the Bishop, early last week, made an episcopal visitation to Lyttelton and with the Very Rev. Dean Foley, conducted a mission, which was terminated on Sunday evening. Each day Mass, followed by a sermon, was celebrated at 6.30 a.m., and each evening there was Rosary with a sermon by the Bishop and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. At the early Mass celebrated by the Bishop on Sunday there were about 200 communicants. At the last Mass his Lordship administered the Sacrament of Confirmation. The services throughout the mission were very largely attended, and £160 was contributed to the Cathedral Building Fund, which sum is expected to be considerably augmented.

The ladies' Cathedral bazaar committee held a meeting on Thursday afternoon last at which his Lordship the Bishop presided, and the Very Rev. Vicar-General was present. Satisfactory reports in connection with the undertaking were made, and various details discussed. In the evening a well-attended meeting of the Cathedral building committee and others interested, was held, the Bishop again presiding. A favourable reply was read from his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne in response to an invitation to be present at the laying of the foundation stone. Offers of assistance towards raising funds were received from several quarters. After some discussion it was decided to advertise in the leading papers of New Zealand, Sydney, and Melbourne, for competitive designs, etc., for a cathedral, a substantial bonus to be offered. This course was decided upon for various reasons, prominent among which was to allow an opportunity to non-Catholic architects to compete, having regard for the way all denominations are, unsolicited, contributing considerable amounts to the building fund.

W A I M A T E.

(From a correspondent.)

The annual outing of the scholars attending the Catholic schools took place on Wednesday last in one of Mr. W. Quinn's paddocks, Makikihi, kindly lent for the occasion. The party left Waimate by train, and received a considerable addition to their numbers at Studholme Junction. Altogether there were over 200 people on the ground. The day was passed in holding the usual games and sports—the chief item being a tug-of-war—Waimate against all-comers, in which Waimate carried off the honours. The committee are indebted to many kind friends for donations to the prize fund for the sports, especially to the Waimate shopkeepers, most of whom contributed.

MISSION AT LITTLE RIVER.

(From a correspondent.)

At the opening of the mission, conducted by his Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Grimes and the Very Rev. Dean Foley on Sunday, 13th inst, an illuminated address, which read as follows, was presented to his Lordship:—'We, the Catholics of Little River, heartily welcome you amongst us once again. Since your last visitation we are aware of the labours and anxieties you have gone through in the cause of Holy Church in different parts of the world. And since your return to your own people your ministrations have been unceasing. We are proud to inform your Lordship that during your absence our spiritual wants have not been neglected, and we are especially grateful to you for allowing to remain amongst such a worthy pastor as the Very Rev. Dean Foley, to whose zeal and devotion we owe under Providence any spiritual advancement we may have made.' The address was signed on behalf of the Catholics of Little River by Messrs. Haughey, Fahey, Foley, Lonorgan, Keenan, Breslin, Quealey, and McManus. His Lordship thanked the people of Little River for the manner in which they had received him, and in referring to his visit to the Holy See said that apart from giving an account of his stewardship he had another object in view, namely to start the nucleus of a fund for the erection of a cathedral, as he thought the time was come for a more substantial and imposing edifice than the present building known as the Pro-Cathedral.

At the nine o'clock Mass on the morning of the close of the mission, a number of children received their First Communion, and after partaking of some refreshments (kindly provided for them by Mr. and Mrs. McManus and Mr. C. D. Rankin), they returned again to the Church, and after a public examination (by his Lordship) on the Christian doctrine, they received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The subscriptions in aid of the Cathedral building fund at Little River amounted to £180 18s.

His Lordship, accompanied by the Very Rev. Dean Foley left on the 17th inst. for Akaroa.

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.—"

For Christmas and New Year presents we recommend our readers to go to the D.I.C. The wonderful variety and magnitude of the Company's stock is almost bewildering, from the highest class goods to the most moderate priced. Beautiful leather goods, brushware, basket and rush work, ornaments, jewellery, dolls, puzzles, outdoor and indoor games, all the latest Christmas and New Year cards, etc. A visit to the D.I.C. Fancy Goods Showrooms will well repay you. D.I.C., High and Rattray streets, Dunedin.—"

Evening Star, June 22, 1889, says:—"Messrs W. Gawne and Co. of George Street, have sent us a sample of Worcestershire Sauce manufactured by them, which is in no respect inferior to the imported article, so long celebrated for flavouring sauces and as an agreeable addition to grills, fish, and steaks. We can safely recommend it as a valuable addition to our rapidly developing local manufactures. The bottles are neatly labelled and ornamental, not only for home use, but for exportation; and we hope the manufacturers will realise a demand equal to the merits of the savoury article they have produced."—"

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GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR.

(Written for the N.Z. TABLET.)

December 3, Sunday.—First of Advent.
 " 4, Monday.—St. Peter Chrysologus.
 " 5, Tuesday.—St. Barbara, Virgin and Martyr.
 " 6, Wednesday.—St. Nicholas, Bishop.
 " 7, Thursday.—St. Ambrose, Bishop and Confessor.
 " 8, Friday.—Feast of the Immaculate Conception.
 " 9, Saturday.—St. Eutichianus, Pope and Martyr.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY.

'THE woman shall crush the serpent's head.' 'Such was the merciful promise made by God to our first parents when they stood before him in terror and confusion to hear the most just sentence of punishment passed upon them. Heaven was now closed to them and their descendants, and the pit of hell lay open. The guilt and stain of sin, the sting of concupiscence, labour, sickness, and all the ills of life, terminable only by the anguish of death, were henceforth to be their portion and the inheritance of their race. But, through the infinite mercy of God, they had now the consolation of knowing that the day would come when a second Eve, the daughter of her who had brought death into the world, should bring back life—when the child of her who had been overcome by the devil should conquer him in turn, and by bringing into the world the promised Redeemer 'should crush the serpent's head,' in other words, should destroy the power of Satan whose malice had brought ruin to mankind.

The first beginning of the fulfilment of this promise is seen in the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin. Mary, the second Eve, was from the first moment of her existence triumphant over the power of the devil, being by a special privilege preserved from the guilt and stain of original sin and from all motions of concupiscence, that is, the natural inclination to evil which is the consequence of sin. She alone of all mankind was ever pure and spotless—a beautiful and snow-white lily in the midst of unsightly thorns, an enclosed garden into which Satan could never penetrate, but wherein the Tree of Life, Jesus, the Saviour of the world, was to spring forth, bearing the fruit of innumerable souls redeemed from sin and hell.

That Mary was conceived Immaculate has always been the belief of the Church, but it has not always been defined in express words as an article of faith. Indeed, there have been good and holy men who thought it more probable that Mary was conceived like the rest of mankind in the sin of Adam, but was purified in her mother's womb, as we read of St. John the Baptist. This opinion never found favour with the Holy See, the pure fountain of revealed truth. Those who followed it were not indeed condemned as heretics, for the Church had not yet spoken, but they were bidden to be silent and not publicly assert or defend such a doctrine. On the contrary, those who affirmed in word or writing that Mary in her very conception was perfectly pure and spotless, who established confraternities, erected altars and churches or set up statues, pictures, or other works of art in honour of her Immaculate Conception, received the warm approval and blessing of the Vicar of Christ, along with many indulgences and other spiritual favours.

For a long time an ardent desire had prevailed throughout the Church that Mary should not only be loved and honoured by the faithful as ever pure and spotless, but that the doctrine of her Immaculate Conception should be solemnly proclaimed to the world as a necessary article of faith, so that no one could ever call in question this greatest of all her privileges. This universal desire at length found expression in petitions from all parts of the world signed by an innumerable multitude of bishops, priests, and laymen, which went up to the Holy See in humble request that the Vicar of Christ would, by defining the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception, satisfy the longing aspirations of the faithful. Whereupon the venerable Pontiff Pius IX., after consulting the Holy Spirit in prayer and fasting, published on December 8, A.D. 1854, the famous Bull in which he declares, as Supreme Teacher and Pastor of the flock of Christ, that the doctrine which teaches that this Blessed Virgin was in her first conception, by a special grace and through the merits of her Divine Son, preserved from all stain of original sin, is a truth revealed by God, which no one can deny without incurring the guilt of heresy.

Since the public definition of the Immaculate Conception the devotion to this mystery, which was always a favourite one with the Saints of God, has become more widely known and deeply impressed in the hearts of the faithful. No one indeed who loves the Blessed Virgin can help rejoicing at this her most glorious privilege.

St. Alphonsus Ligouri tells us that the devotion to this mystery is especially efficacious in enabling us to overcome the dangerous temptations of the flesh; whence he was accustomed to recommend his penitents who were tempted to the sin of impurity to recite daily three Hail Marys in honour of Mary Immaculate. And the Venerable John of Avila assures us that he never found anyone who practised a true devotion to the Immaculate Conception of Mary and did not in a short time obtain the gift of that angelic virtue which renders us so dear to her virginal heart.

'O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee! By thy Sacred Virginity and Immaculate Conception, O most pure Mother and Queen of Virgins, obtain for me purity of soul and body! Amen.'

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Irish News.

OUR IRISH LETTER.

(From our own correspondent.)

Dublin, October 10.

A BOUNTIFUL HARVEST.

It is wonderful what an amount of sunshine we can bring into our lives by keeping on counting our blessings and passing a-tiptoe over our woes. The recipe is a very old one, like most of our best philosophy, and I always like to record any blessings vouchsafed to Ireland and the Irish, whether by Providence direct or by the ministers of Providence. It is sometimes well even to examine our apparent misfortunes thoroughly, so as to find out their good side, on which to keep an eye while trying to mend the bad side.

As far as reports go, then, up to the present Providence has blessed the country this year with a good harvest: corn, hay, and potatoes have yielded abundantly, and so we hope that there will be less suffering this winter amongst the poor of the rural districts in general than there has been for several seasons past; what a happiness that is can only be realised by those who know our patient peasantry and how much they can bear before they cry aloud. Some ultra Radicals think that it is a doubtful good, that gift of cheerful patience in suffering with which our people are so largely endowed; still, there is no denying that it is a wonderful gift from God and should not be lightly cast away.

THE DUBLIN ELECTRIC TRAM SYSTEM.

Our citizens of Dublin are congratulating themselves upon being the pioneers of the electric tram system for these countries, and on the fact that, while London is only preparing for electric traction, Dublin will, in about two months' time, possess the most complete and most extensive electric tramcar system in Europe. A little over two years ago the first trolley line was opened; we have now a perfect net-work of well-equipped lines, by means of which the citizens and the inhabitants of the suburbs can travel in every direction at the small cost of one half-penny per mile. So highly is this convenience appreciated by rich and poor alike, that the shareholders of the Electric Tram Company look upon their property in the light of a gold mine. Already every £10 share is sold at £25 10s, and stockbrokers say that in a comparatively short time the price will go up to £50 per share: an agreeable prospect for the owners of the lucky bottled lightning. There are two drawbacks, however, to the boon of the electric system. One is the question: Will the next generation, even of the very poor, in our cities know how to use their limbs or care to exercise them in the healthiest of all ways—walking? The cost of producing bicycles must always keep them out of the reach of the many, but even street urchins can always command a half-penny for the tram-car ride, and I understand we have already half-penny fares on one or two of our lines. The second consideration is that while at present two of the large industries of our rural population are raising horses for city traffic and corn and hay for fodder, according as the electric system spreads from city to city, these two mainstays of many rural districts must greatly diminish, and thus further impoverish the greater number, in order to enrich and convenience the comparatively few of the cities, even though these latter must, indirectly, suffer from the poverty of the country. Already the trade of horse breeding shows a considerable loss, as there is a falling-off of 9963 in the number of animals reared this year as compared with 1898. Take these at the figure of £30 per head all round, and there is a loss of £298,890 to the farmers who made this trade a specialty, not counting the consequent loss to forage producers; while in cities, what with horseless traction and bicycles, two hitherto most flourishing trades—those of harnessmakers and blacksmiths—are suffering severely. However, the onward march of science and the minds of share speculators do not usually take these small matters into consideration, though it sometimes puzzles one to understand how it is that before the days of free trade, steam, machinery, high-pressure education, and all the rest of our 'modern civilisation,' this little island supported 8,000,000 of people in really far greater general comfort than it now supports less than 5,000,000.

MR. WILLIAM O'BRIEN'S NEW PAPER.

Mr. William O'Brien has started a new weekly in Dublin, *The Irish People*—a paper solely in the interests of unity amongst Nationalists of all shades of opinion—that the cause of the United Irish League may have a special organ to advocate its aims, viz., the division of the vast tracts of grass lands into farms of a size suitable to the needs of middle-class and small farmers. The journal, which professes to keep its interests quite separate from sectional party feeling, deserves a welcome, and deserves success if it can in any way further the cause of unity, but it is to be feared that it will not be easy to change Mr. T. Healy's intense dislike of Mr. John Dillon and Mr. William O'Brien, or Mr. John Redmond's and Sir Thomas Esmonde's intense love of—themselves. The Irish people are practically united and would be only too glad of either of two arrangements amongst these gentlemen: that they should sink their petty personal differences and join heartily in working for the good of Ireland, as in old days, or else retire altogether from public life. It is, indeed, a sad pity that the old British policy of 'divide, divide' (instituted some centuries ago, if I make not, by an astute and conscienceless ancestor of Lord Salisbury) should have been able to break the bonds that assuredly once united such able men as Dillon, Healy, O'Brien, Davitt, Sexton. These men, working heartily hand in hand, with the country behind them, could do anything now, especially that England's difficulty seems looming on a very close horizon. However, there is little doubt but

that a very few years will see our country quietly enjoying that which has cost so much suffering and self-sacrifice in this nearly worn-out century.

A GREAT WORK OF ART.

Truly, money can do much when it has enabled America to become the repository of two such works of art as the companion paintings to the great picture now on view in Dublin, Munkacsy's 'Ecce Homo,' that marvellous production of genius to which attaches such a sad additional interest in the fact that the gifted painter became hopelessly insane but three days after he had finished this, his last masterpiece.

Even those who have seen many of the finest religious paintings in the world hold this to be the most wonderful on which they have ever looked. Though there are 70 life-size figures on the canvas, the picture gives no idea of overcrowding, in fact the moment the exhibition is entered, one quite loses all idea of a canvas, so real is the scene represented, so do figures—living, breathing figures—start forth; so full is the colouring, so true the perspective of pillars, ground, arches, and interior that the Eastern sun shines down upon.

I have read no learned critiques upon the picture, I am not an artist, therefore I cannot speak of this great work in technical terms or as being in any way qualified to criticise, I only speak as a person keenly alive to the beautiful in nature and quick, as many ignorant of the technicalities of art often are, to detect anything that jars upon one's instinct of what is true to nature, and in speaking of Munkacsy's 'Ecce Homo' I can only say that every figure, pre-eminently those of our Lord and of Pilate, is the figure of a living person. For instance, you feel as if it was only the moment before you entered upon the scene that Pilate leaned forward to the crowd, stretched forth his hands, and exclaimed: 'Ecce Homo!' It was but then our Lord raised His eyes and His thoughts to His Heavenly Father above, beyond the angry faces before Him, the cruel suffering within Him. It was suddenly, even as you looked, that the soldier directly beneath felt his anger rising and clutched his spear in a firm grasp, ready to defend even that Man of Sorrows from such a howling wretch as the aged Jew who is clamouring and threatening in his senseless fury. It was but this moment the Blessed Virgin fainted. The Mother of Jesus had stood, calmly sorrowful, until you were just entering, and you almost saw Saint John—the beloved disciple—stoop forward to shield and support her. In truth, the whole scene appears not to be painted, but to pass before your tear-filled eyes.

The one thing that strikes an observer as at all faulty is that, while every figure is in itself perfect as to roundness, relief, colour, life, there seems to be too sudden a diminution in size in those in the background for the distance indicated. This, however, might not appear if the picture were in a vast hall, as it is no doubt intended to be. At present it belongs to a syndicate, of whom Munkacsy's wife is the principal member, and the exhibitors are well pleased with their success so far. Orders for over 600 copies of the mezzotint engraving, at prices from two to four guineas, are already booked. The picture itself is valued at £37,000.

M. B.

COUNTY NEWS.

CARLOW.—Reception Ceremony.—On Thursday, September 21, the interesting and imposing ceremonies of Reception and Profession took place at the Bridgetine Convent, Tullow, Co. Carlow. The novices who made their vows were Sister M. J. Aloysius Cronin and Sister M. J. Anthony O'Connell, and the young lady who received the holy habit, Miss Alice Dwyer. The Most Rev. Dr. Foley presided.

CORK.—The Patron Saint of Cork.—From all parts of the diocese of Cork people journeyed in their hundreds on the first Sunday in October to Gougane Barra to pay tribute at the shrine of their patron Saint, St. Finbar, founder of the See and City of Cork, or at least of the old Irish quarter, for most of the city is of Danish origin. High Mass was celebrated under a pavilion in the ruins of the church, the music for the occasion being supplied by a specially selected choir from Cork, under the presidency of Miss O'Donoghue, L.R.A.M. The celebrant of the High Mass was the Rev. P. Hurley, P.P., Inchigeela; deacon, Rev. James Brady, C.C., Dunmanway; and sub-deacon, Rev. Denis O'Driscoll, C.C., Inchigeela. Immediately after Mass the panegyric of the Saint was preached by the Rev. Father Verdon, S.J., Dublin. Taking for his text the words, "Like a tree planted by the running waters and bringing forth fruit in due season," from the third verse of the First Psalm of David, he said their minds and hearts were lifted up to-day, while their thoughts and affections lingered lovingly there round the cradle where their holy religion was first fostered, and from where it spread its genial influence over the lakes and plains, hills and valleys of the land. In the conclusion of his discourse the preacher alluded with much emotion to the sufferings of the Irish Church. 'Through years of sorrow,' he said, 'years of pain, torture, and martyrdom they stuck to that faith, and broken hearts and ruined homes and shattered shrines were monuments to the steadfast adherence of Finbar's sons to that faith and hope and love. What had been the history of their country for nigh 300 years? Had it not been a struggle for the faith of Jesus Christ for which their forefathers fought and died, and in that struggle faith to them was all in all, while fortune and riches were nothing. Although it might be said they were the poorest people on the earth, still they were rich in the Faith of Christ, which was still their dearest treasure.'

GALWAY.—Dedication of a Church.—On Sunday, October 1, at Rossmuch, the Most Rev. Dr. McCormack, Bishop of Galway, dedicated a new church in the Early English style of Gothic, which has been built by a poor congregation with the help won for them from outside by the energy of their parish priest, Father Cassidy. A special feature of the service was the sermon preached by Father John M'Namara, C.S.S.R., first in Irish and then in English.

KILDARE.—Honouring a Maynooth Professor.—His Holiness the Pope has conferred on the Very Rev. James Donnellan, Maynooth, the degree of Doctor in Theology.

KILKENNY.—Opening of a New Church at Piltown.—A new church was solemnly blessed and opened at Piltown, Kilkenny, on the last Sunday in September by the Bishop of Ossory, in presence of the Bishop of Waterford. The new church is a spacious stone building, the cost of which has been almost entirely defrayed by the pence of the poor. The total cost is £6738, of which £6254 has been paid off, leaving a balance of less than £500 due. This indeed is very creditable when one considers that it is the work of 104 labourers, the shopkeepers of the two villages of Fiddown and Piltown, and about 23 or 30 farmers. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Dr. McDonald, President of Dunboyne.

MAYO.—Death of a Franciscan Brother.—His many friends will read with deep regret (says the *New Era*) the announcement of the death of Brother Bernardine, which took place recently at St. Mary's Monastery, Partry, County Mayo. The amiable Brother, who reached the advanced age of almost 90 years, was a native of Clara, in the King's County. He was educated by the Franciscan Brothers, of the same town, and embraced the Third Order of St. Francis, receiving the habit in the Monastery of St. Mary's.

WICKLOW.—The Philanthropic Reform Association.—The Philanthropic Reform Association, of which the Earl of Meath is president, is justifying its existence (says the *New Era*). For the second time within the past few months the president has brought together from all ranks and classes a number of social reformers for the purpose of discussing and pushing to a practical conclusion such ameliorative measures as are urgently needed to make the lives of the poor somewhat happier. Of the subjects dealt with at Kilruddery at a recent meeting, where the members assembled on the invitation of Lord Meath, the housing of the poor came in for a large share of attention, but as was pointed out by the Most Rev. Dr. Donnelly, Bishop of Canea, the problem was a very difficult one to deal with, especially in cities and towns, since the migration of a considerable part of the rural population caused overcrowding in the tenement houses of the larger towns. This is practically the kernel of the housing question. Much hope is entertained that when the Agriculture and Industries Act of last session comes into practical operation, efforts will be made to stem this migration by establishing such industries as the various districts throughout the country are capable of affording.

GENERAL.

The Department of Agriculture.—Mr. Horace Plunkett, M.P., will be the first vice-president of the newly-created Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction in Ireland.

Statistics of Primary Education.—The Commissioners of National Education in Ireland, in their annual report, issued about the end of September, say:—On the 30th September, 1898, there were 8651 schools in operation. During the nine months to that date 124 schools were brought into operation, viz, 85 vested in the Commissioners or in trustees, and 39 non-vested; while 104 schools were placed on the suspended list, or removed from the roll of National schools. This gives a net increase of 20 schools in operation for the nine months to 30th September, 1898. The average number of pupils on the rolls as recorded on the last day of the results periods of the schools was 808,467. The average daily attendance of pupils similarly for the results periods was 518,799. The percentage of the average daily attendance of pupils to the average number on the rolls was 64.2. The total number of pupils actually on the rolls of National schools on the last day of their results period was 794,818. The religious denomination of these pupils was as follows:—601,206 or 75.6 per cent. were Roman Catholics, 92,212 or 11.6 per cent. were of the late Established Church, 87,218 or 11.0 per cent. were Presbyterians, 8553 or 1.1 per cent. were Methodists, 5629 or 0.7 per cent. were of other denominations. Of the pupils on the rolls of the 8604 schools, 255,862, or 37.3 per cent. were in schools attended by Roman Catholic and Protestant children, and 498,283 or 62.7 per cent. in schools attended solely by Roman Catholics or solely by Protestants.

Sacrifices in the Cause of Education.—Writing to the clerk of Swineford District Council, the members of which proposed to put the Compulsory Education Act into force in the Union, the Most Rev. Dr. Lyster draws a striking comparison between the comfort and attractiveness of the primary schools of Great Britain and the dismal surroundings of those in Irish country districts. In England and Scotland, his Lordship points out, no means are left undone to induce, and even to entice, children to attend. Recently he visited a public school in Scotland where the very air which the children were to inhale was washed, dried, and warmed before being allowed into the classrooms; the coats, cloaks, and caps were dried in a special chamber if they received a drop of rain; the building was ventilated and heated by elaborate machinery. Now look on the other picture as drawn by Dr. Lyster. On the very day after my return, he writes, I met a child of my own flock trudg'g one-and-a-half miles to school, her draggled hair and scanty clothes wet through and through by the thick rain and her two soles of turf under her tiny arm. I asked myself this question: In which country are the greater sacrifices made for the sake of education? There can be no doubt as to the answer to the question Dr. Lyster put to himself. Considering the circumstances, the people of Ireland make great sacrifices in the cause of education. Were it otherwise they would be unworthy descendants of those who gave their very lives for it 'in dark and evil days.'

An Appeal on Behalf of the United Irish League.—Messrs. William O'Brien, Michael Davitt, and James O'Kelly, on behalf of the United Irish League, have issued an appeal for assistance to Irishmen all over the world. The first portion of the appeal

is devoted to a summary of the objects of the League, which comprise the reunion of all earnest Nationalists in an organisation similar in purpose to the old National Land League; the National Independence of Ireland in the rule of Ireland by Irishmen; the abolition of Irish landlordism, and the restoration of the land of Ireland to its people; the better housing of our working classes in country and town, and the material and social betterment of their condition; the prevention of famines and of periodical distress in the poorer parts of the country by means of the breaking up of grazing ranches and the providing of more land and better land for small cultivators; to arrest as far as possible the continual emigration of the youth of Ireland; and to encourage the revival of the Gaelic tongue among the Irish race. 'The League has already done good work, its organisation and influence have succeeded in obtaining large and valued concessions for the people residing in the so-called congested areas in the west of Ireland. As the objects which the League has been organised to accomplish are such as the majority of our race approve of as essential to the uplifting of Ireland to her rightful status as a Nation, we, therefore, invite your readers and our kith and kin in America, Canada, the Australias, and elsewhere to extend a helping hand to the working out of the great task which the United Irish League has undertaken. Our people at home are aiding the movement out of slender resources and will continue to do so. But large measures of support are wanted for a more wide and vigorous spreading of the organisation, and we, therefore, venture to ask this help from all who are wishful to see the objects of the League achieved in our time.'

THE SCOPE OF A CATHOLIC CLUB.

THERE is little, if any, maudlin sentimentality about the Archbishop of Adelaide, the Most Rev. Dr. O'Reilly (says the local *Herald*). His address on the opening of the Adelaide Catholic Club was a straightforward and a manly one, and was well worth listening to. He gave it to be distinctly understood that the club was not intended to be a political or scientific institution, as he said 'it was in a more respectable line of business.' For the purpose of giving rest to the mind and change of occupation, he was pleased to see billiard tables, as well as chess, draughts, and cards there. In the course of his remarks his Grace said they were going to have no prayer meetings in the hall, no instructions in catechism, no Bible readings, and no sermons. Within a stone's throw of the club there was a large building, erected by the contributions of the Catholics of the city and country: a building set aside for exercises such as he had mentioned. Its doors were always open, and the young men who wish to take part in the devotions, or who like to hear sermons, would find in the services of the Church, ample opportunity of gratifying their predilections. Neither was it an advanced school for grown boys, who, if they wish to improve themselves in their spare time, would find that the School of Mines and similar institutions gave ample scope for gratifying their desires.

Knowledge was a very desirable thing, and those young men who devote a few spare hours to its acquisition were deserving of praise. He went to school until he was 24 years of age, when he was ordained, and in his last year at school he came to have a large opinion of the extent of the information he had acquired. His professors, who were old and experienced men, took care to cure him of his pride by reminding him that he was not to suppose himself a philosopher after his many years of study, but that he could consider he had done well if, during his long course of education, he had learned how to learn when he had left the college, and was thrown on his own resources. He did not know whether the young colonials considered themselves cultured scholars when they left school at 15 or 16 years of age; they certainly could not be accused of want of self-confidence, and, possibly like himself when he was 24 years of age, they were a little vain of their accomplishments; but they made a mistake if they imagined they had done with book learning when they had taken their certificate under the compulsory standard. Although the education of adults is a desirable thing, it is not the object of the Catholic Club to supply the place of an educational institution for those who have left school. Then, again, the Adelaide Catholic Club was not a political institution. There was a celebrated American writer who, in a letter to Abraham Lincoln, the President of the Republic, wrote: 'I have no politics, navy or politics. I am in a more respectable business.'

The Adelaide Catholic Club will not recognise any form of political opinion. Conservative as well as Liberal, Free-trader as well as Protectionist, and Federationist as well as Anti-Federationist, will be welcome as members.

The club had no politics; it was in a more respectable business. It claimed to be merely a place for the amusement and relaxation of the Catholic young men of the city and suburbs. If he were asked to give a definition of the Australian young man, a definition which would embody his chief characteristics, he would say he is an animal to whom amusement is very useful and oftentimes essential. Australians are sometimes accused of being too fond of sport, but although they throw themselves into their games with enthusiasm and vim, when the time comes for work—and they are a people who work very hard—they do it with a vengeance. He was pleased to see they had two billiard tables. The second room was to be reserved for minor games, such as chess, draughts, dominoes, and for cards in moderation. The trustees decided long ago that card playing should be allowed in moderation, and he did not see any reason for setting himself against their determination. He was told by some person that there would be temptation in cards, but there was temptation in everything, and if every game in which temptation lurks were abolished, there would be little left for our delectation.

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The "STANDARD" Brand Boots and Shoes are known from Auckland to the Bluff for sterling quality. |
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Commercial.

(For week ending November 29).

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; Emu Bay Railway, 12/0 to 12/9; Wellington Woollen, 5/0/0 to 5/2/6; Silvertown 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, 23/0 to 24/0; Alpine Extended, 3/9 to 4/3; Cresus (Paparoa), 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, 79/0 to 81/0; Evan's Flat, 35/0 to 36/0; Ettrick, 14/6 to 15/6 (paid up); Golden Gate, 120/0 to 122/0; Golden Beach, 25/0 to 27/0 (prem.); Golden Point, 41/0 to 42/0; Tuapeka, 39/0 to 40/0; Vincent, 51/0 to 54/0; Hartley and Riley, 8/5/0 to 8/6/6; Jutland Flat, 4/0 to 4/3 (contrib.); Macraes Flat, 7/0 to 9/0; Golden Run, 50/0 to 54/0; Golden Terrace, 13/0 to 15/0; Magnetic, 59/6 to 60/6; Matau, 60/0 to 65/0; Molyneux Hydraulic (B), 30/0 to 32/0; Nevis, 25/0 to 28/0; Otago, 1/19/0 to 2/0/0; Upper Waipori, 2/3 to 2/9; Waimumu, 26/0 to 27/0; Sunlight, 35/6 to 36/6; Cromwell, 58/0 to 59/0 (prem.); Riverbank, 5/6 to 6/6; Nil Desperandum, 42/0 to 45/0; Klondyke, 7/6 to 9/0; Waikaka Forks, 1/0 to 1/6 (prem.); Dunstan Leads, 17/0 to 18/0; Ophir, 8/0 to 9/6; 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.

PRODUCE.

Napier, November 24.—Nelson and Co. have received the following cable from the C.C. and D. Company, London:—Frozen meat quotations: Best Canterbury, 3½d; best Dunedin and Southland, 3d; best Napier and North Island, 2½d. Lamb: First quality, 3½d; second 3d.

London, November 24.—The wheat markets are quiet but firm. Sailer parcels afloat are quoted at 27s 6d; 13,000 bushels new Victorian (January) have been sold at 28s 9d.

Butter is improving in price, and is in good demand. Choicest colonial, 100s to 104s; secondary (slow sale), 90s to 96s; Danish (strong), 116.

London, November 26.—Frozen Mutton—Crossbred wethers and maiden ewes: Canterbury, 3½d; Dunedin and Southland, 3d; North Island, 2½d. Lamb: Prime Canterbury, 4d; fair average (including Dunedin, Southland, Wellington, and secondary Canterbury), 3½d; River Plate, unchanged.

INVERCARGILL PRODUCE MARKET.

The Invercargill Grain Brokers' Association reports that the oat market shows little change since last week, being still rather quiet. A grade, are offering at 2s, f.o.b.; B grade, 1s 11½d; C grade, 1s 11d (sacks included).

Invercargill prices current:—Wholesale: Butter, fresh, 5d; eggs, 7d per doz; cheese, farm, 3½d; 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, 7d; 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.

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

WHEAT.—Dull market, no enquiry. Quotations: Milling, 2s 7d to 2s 9d for prime sorts; medium, 2s 5d to 2s 6d; fowl wheat, 2s to 2s 5d.

OATS.—Nothing doing meantime. Prime milling, to 1s 10½d; good to best feed, to 1s 9d; medium, 1s 6d to 1s 8d.

CHAFF.—Values rather easier. Prime, L2 15s; good, L2 10s to L2 12s 6d; medium, L2 to L2 7s 6d.

POTATOES.—Heavy supplies. Best Derwents, 15s to 20s per ton.

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

OATS.—There being no buyers present for the class of oats offered we passed those catalogued. During the past week there has been very limited business done. Owing to scarcity of freight it is doubtful if much could be done at reduced prices, and at present holders are firm at late values. We quote: Good to best feed, 1s 9d to 1s 10d; medium, 1s 7½d to 1s 8½d; inferior, 1s 6d to 1s 7d per bushel (sacks extra).

WHEAT.—The market for prime milling is quiet at late quotations. To-day we offered medium to good whole fowl wheat, which sold at 2s to 2s 5d per bushel (sacks in).

POTATOES.—The supply is more than sufficient for requirements, and on account of the stagnant state of the market we would advise clients not to make further consignments at present. We quote: Best Derwents, 15s to 20s per ton (sacks in).

CHAFF.—The quantity forward, although not excessive, is fully equal to requirements, and prices to-day show no improvement. We quote: Prime oatens sheaf, L2 10s to L2 12s 6d; medium to good, L2 to L2 7s 6d per ton (bags extra).

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, 20s; old stock from 1s per bag. Chaff: much easier demand; L2 5s to L2 15s.

PROSPECTS FOR BUTTER AND CHEESE.

The Agricultural department have received a report from Mr. H. C. Cameron, inspector of New Zealand produce in London, dated the 20th ult., in which he says that everything points to a scarcity in Great Britain of the choicest qualities of butter. The 'make' at Home and on the Continent is short, and as cold and wintry weather has set in the quantity that will come from Australia should not frighten holders. He does not anticipate any further reduction in prices. Many people, he explains, are of the opinion that there will be higher quotations for cheese, but of this he is doubtful. He adds that the largest consumers of cheese are the middle and working classes, and when it gets high in price the consumption of it suffers at once. The working classes can get meat so cheaply nowadays that they are not at all dependent on cheese, and only use it when it is reasonably cheap.

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Grass Seeds—Ryegrasses, machine dressed, off old pasture.
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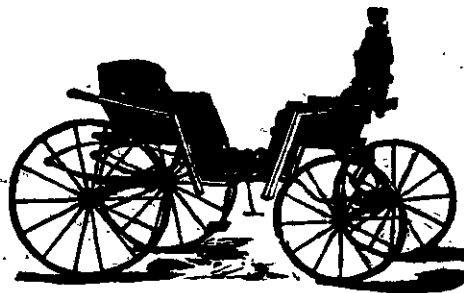
Turnip Seeds—*Swedes*: Champion. Elephant. Monarch.
Webb's Imperial. Tait's Best of All. Webb's
Giant King. *Yellows*: Aberdeen Green Top.
Aberdeen Purple Top. Romney Marsh (our strain
gave very great satisfaction last Season). Fosterton
Hybrid. *Whites*: Devon Greystone. Lincoln
Red Globe.

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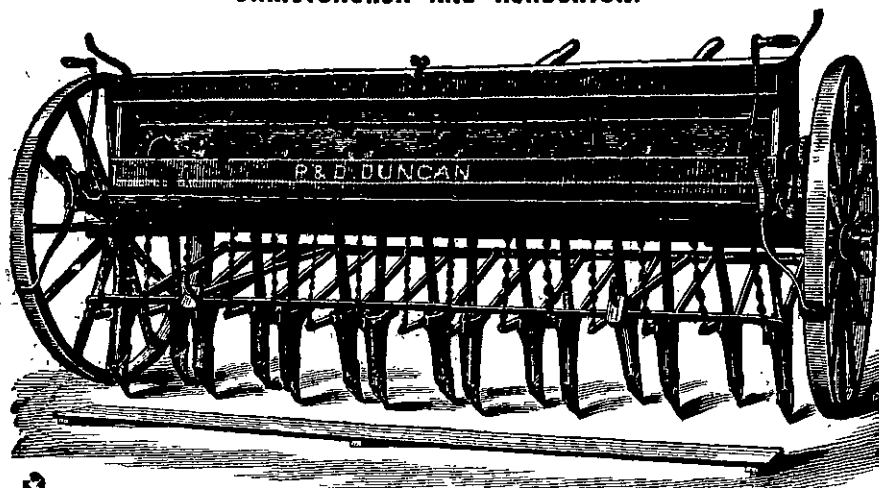
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NAPIER, GISBORNE and AUCKLAND—

Te Anau	Fri., Dec. 1	3 p.m. D'din
Tarawera	Fri., Dec. 8	4 p.m. D'din

SYDNEY via WELLINGTON—

Talune	Thurs., Dec. 7	2.30 p.m. tr'n
Monowai	Thurs., Dec. 14	2.30 p.m. tr'n

SYDNEY via AUCKLAND—

Waihora	Tues., Dec. 12	3 p.m. D'din
Mararoa	Tues., Dec. 26	2.30 p.m. tr'n

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Cargo only.

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Cargo only.

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TAHITI and RARATONGA—

Ovalau	Jan. 16, 1900	From Auckland
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FIJI (SUVA and LEVUKA)—

Taviuni	Wed., Dec. 6	From Auckland
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**FOR TONGA, SAMOA, FIJI & SYDNEY
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Hauroto	Wed., Dec. 13	
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"DEAR ME! I've forgotten that **SYMINGTON COFFEE ESSENCE**, whatever shall I do?—Call at the next
Store you pass; they All Keep it."

AUSTRALIAN COMMERCIAL.

Sydney, November 22.—Pending the arrival of the new wheat, the market is dull and unsettled. Chick, 2s 8d; milling (nominal) to 3s. Flour, L7 5s to L7 10s. Oats—Feeding: New Zealand, 2s 6d to 2s 2d; Tasmanian, 1s 10d to 2s; seedling—Tartarian, 1s 10d to 1s 11d. Barley: Cape, 2s 4d to 2s 5d; English, 2s 3d to 2s 6d. Maize, 3s 1d to 3s 2d; American, 2s 11d. Peas: Blue, 3s to 3s 6d. Bran, 8d to 8½d; pollard, 8½d to 9d. Potatoes are plentiful. Circular Heads, L2 to L2 5s; New Zealand Derwentas, L1 to L1 5s; new local, to L4 10s. Onions: Local, L3 5s to L4 10; American, to L5 10s. Butter: Dairy, 7½d to 8d; factory, 9d. Cheese: Large, 4½d to 4½d; loaf, 5d to 5½d. Bacon, 5d to 7½d.

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

Melbourne, November 22.—Wheat, unsettled. Old is quoted at 2s 9½d; new, 2s 8d to 2s 9d, according to delivery. Oats: Belgian, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; stout, 1s 9d to 1s 11½d. Maize, 2s 9d to 2s 10d. Bran, 8d. Pollard, 8½d. Potatoes: old, 1s 6d to L1 5s; new, to L2s 15s. Onions, L1 15s to L3.

Adelaide, November 22.—Wheat, nominal. New, for forward delivery, is offering at 2s 9d; old is sold at 2s 10s. Flour, L7 to L7 10s. Oats, unchanged. Bran and pollard, 8½d to 9d.

PASTORAL AND AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS.

The New South Wales stock report shows that last year the sheep decreased by 2,700,000, cattle 80,000, and horses 17,000, owing chiefly to the drought.

The Sydney *Daily Telegraph* estimates the exportable surplus of the new Australian wheat crop, including that of New Zealand, at 24,000,000 bushels.

LIVE STOCK.

ADDINGTON STOCK MARKET.

There were small entries at Addington, comprising 2769 fat sheep, 742 fat lambs, 1119 store sheep, 372 cattle, and 354 pigs.

FAT CATTLE—The 152 head fat cattle were mostly light to handy weights, and the sale was not brisk. Late rates were about maintained—viz., 17s 6d to 20s for prime, 15s to 16s for good, and down to 13s for cow and inferior beef. Per head steers realised L5 2s 6d to L7 17s 6d; heifers, L4 to L7 5s; cows, L3 10s to L6 17s 6d. There was little or no demand for store or dairy cattle.

FAT SHEEP—There was a mixed entry of fat sheep, mostly shorn. There was a good demand throughout for freezers, with 6d per head rise. Although butchers' sheep opened well, they fell back to last week's prices before the end of the market. Woolly wethers sold at from 18s 6d to 18s 9d; shorn do, 11s 6d to 14s, and up to 17s for extra prime show sheep; shorn ewes, 7s 6d to 12s 11d, and up to 14s 3d for extra good; woolly merino wethers 15s 11d, and up to 18s 6d for prime; shorn do, 10s 6d to 12s.

FAT LAMBS—There was a good inquiry for lambs for export, and the bulk were taken at an average of about 11s 6d up to 12s 1d for extra good, and down to 9s 6d for small.

STORE SHEEP—The only lines of store sheep worth mentioning were a line of shorn crossbred wethers at 11s 10d, and 19s do wethers and ewes at 10s 3d. The balance were in little lots.

PIGS—There was a fairly large entry of pigs, the bulk being small stores. Fats were a little easier, and stores about held their own. Baconers brought 3d per lb, and porkers 3½d to 3½d. Per head baconers ranged from 31s to 39s, porkers from 25s to 30s, stores 15s to 23s, and weaners 10s to 14s.

DUNEDIN HORSE SALEYARDS.

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

We held our weekly sale on Saturday. The sale was well attended. There was a large entry of light horses, including some very fine upstanding harness sorts. The draughts, with one or two exceptions, were a very poor lot, most of them aged and otherwise faulty. The harness horses sold well, and so did the best of the draughts; but there was very little demand for aged and inferior horses of either description. In upstanding harness horses the following were some of the principal sales, viz.: Bay gelding, five years, L26 10s; brown gelding, five years, L25; bay gelding, four years, L24; chestnut gelding, five years, L23; bay gelding, four years, L21; brown gelding, six years, L18; pair brown five-year-old geldings, L35; lady's hack, L13. In draughts the following sales were made: Bay gelding, five years old, L44; bay gelding, six years, L40; brown gelding, L36 10s; and bay gelding, L34. A number of useful tramway horses changed hands at from L10 to L13. 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 shepherds' hacks, L10 to L12; aged but sound hacks, L7 to L9; inferior and weedy sorts, L2 to L5.

WOOL, SKINS, TALLOW, ETC.

London, November 21.—The wool arrivals for the next series of sales total 123,500 bales, of which 25,500 will be forwarded direct to the manufacturers, leaving 108,000 available for the sales opening on Tuesday.

London, November 22.—At the tallow sales 421 casks were offered, and 375 sold. Prices for all kinds are unchanged.

Sydney, November 23.—At the wool sales both in Sydney and Melbourne, there is a weaker feeling. The decline is most noticeable in merinos, these in Melbourne being fully a halfpenny lower than the prices obtained last week.

Melbourne, November 24.—The wool market has recovered its buoyant tone.

London, November 24.—The Bradford wool market is excited. Common sixties, 31d; supers, 32½d.

London, November 26.—Hides are in strong demand, and there is a general advance of a farthing. Queensland heavy ox realised 6½d; New South Wales heavy, 5½d. Australian leather and basils are dull.

The hemp market is slow. Fair Wellington October and December shipments, L35 10s.

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

RABBITSKINS—Consignments are now on a small scale only, sales in consequence being held once a fortnight in place of weekly. Values remain about the same level and quotations may be repeated.

SHEEPSKINS—We submitted our usual large catalogue on Tuesday and all sorts met a good sale, merino skins in same cases making almost 9d per lb; dry crossbreds, 2s 3d to 7s; do merino, 2s 5d to 7s; extra good, 7s 6d to 8s; pelts, 6d to 1s 9d.

HIDES—Good demand. Market firm. Extra heavy ox, well flayed, to 4½d per lb; others in proportion.

AUCKLAND WOOL SALE.

The first Auckland wool sale of the season took place on Tuesday. Cross-bred showed a strong advance, while coarse wools showed an advance of about a penny on last season. Fine wool was in strong demand, and showed an advance of 3d to 3½d on the opening prices of last season. Prices for fine cross-bred and half-bred wool ranged from 7½d to 10d per lb, coarse cross-bred from 6d to 6½d, and Lincoln 5½d to 5½d. The total number of bales catalogued is 3,330.

CHRISTCHURCH WOOL SALES.

The first series of the Christchurch wool sales opened on November 23, when, out of 8118 bales catalogued, 7262 were sold by auction. There was a good attendance of foreign and local buyers, although the sale was slow all through, occupying from 10 a.m. until 10 p.m. Good prices were obtained, and there were advances in all classes of wool, more especially in fine halfbreds and merinos. Buyers were very slow to start, but once set going the competition was very keen, and pieces and bellies were much sought after by local scourers, and in several instances brought prices fully up to fleece wool from the same flocks. The scarcity of merino, owing to shearing not being far advanced in that class of wool, considerably affected the market, and caused a keen demand. No large station clips came forward, the bulk being farmers' lots. Strong crossbreds advanced on the closing rates at last year's sales ½d to 1d per lb; medium do, 1d to 2d; Down cross and medium halfbreds, 2d to 3d; super halfbred, 3d to 4½d; and merino, 3d to 5d. Merino sold up to 12½d, halfbred to 13½d, crossbred 11½d, longwool to 8d, Down wool to 11d, pieces and bellies to 10½d, and locks to 4d.

THE WEEK'S DREDGING RETURNS.

During the week ended Monday, 27th inst. (says the *Otago Daily Times*), returns were reported from the following 29 dredges, the total yield being 927oz 17dwt 10gr, or an average of over 31oz per dredge:—

Hartley and Riley (Cromwell), 4 days, 213oz 14dwt; Magnetic (Cromwell), 5 days, 85oz; Success (Waipori), 140 hours, 58oz 13dwt; Junction Electric (Cromwell), 57oz; Golden Gate (Island Block), 6 days, 51oz 14dwt; Enterprise (Alexandra), 134 hours, 43oz 9dwt 12gr; Manorburn (Manuhierikia), 41oz; Golden Treasure (Miller's Flat), 35oz 4dwt; Clyde (Alexandra), 25oz; Unity (Clyde), 24oz 8dwt; Empire (Waipori), 24oz 3dwt 6gr; Upper Waipori (Waipori), 22oz 9dwt; Golden Terrace (Lower Shotover), 20oz 16dwt 16gr; Jutland Flat (Waipori), 128 hours, 20oz 6dwt; Golden Point (Alexandra), 20oz; Molyneux Hydraulic (Alexandra), 19oz; Macraes Flat (Nenthorn), 161 hours, 16oz 8dwt; Nil Desperandum (Manuhierikia), 16oz; Tuapeka (Tuapeka Flat), 15oz 3dwt; Sunlight (Beaumont), 141 hours, 14oz 8dwt; Evans Flat (Tuapeka), 13oz 7dwt; Ettrick (Moa Flat), 5 days, 13oz; Inch Valley (near Palmerston), 68 hours, 13oz; Otago (Miller's Flat), 13oz; Morning Star (Manuhierikia), 129 hours, 12oz 14dwt; Galtee More (Manuhierikia), 11oz; Nevis (Nevis River), 90 hours 11oz; Matau (Clyde), 9oz; Waimumu (near Gore), 70 hours, 8oz. Total, 927oz 17dwt 10gr.

LATE BURNSIDE STOCK REPORT.

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

Wednesday, 5 p.m.

FAT CATTLE—200 yarded. There was a good demand, and prices were fully 10s better than last week. Best bullocks, L7 10s to L9; extra good, L12; medium, L6 to L6 7s 6d; others, up to L5 15s; best cows and heifers, from L3 15s to L6 10s.

SHEEP—1200 penned. Owing to the short supply there was a good demand, prices being fully 1s 6d per head better. Best crossbred wethers, 17s 6d to 20s; extra heavy, up to 20s 6d; medium, 15s to 17s 3d; others, up to 15s; one pen extra heavy sold at 17s 6d.

Mr. J. A. Millar will address the electors of Dunedin at the Union street Hall on Friday next. He will also speak at the monster meeting in the Garrison Hall on Tuesday evening.—*.*

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NOTICE.

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CLEARY, can be had from the TABLET Office. Price, 1s 3d; per
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Father Finn's Books, each 3s 6d—Percy Wynn, Mostly Boys, Tom
Playfair, That Football Game, Claude Lightfoot, Harry Dee,
Ethelred Preston. (Postage, about 1d in the 1s.)

Special Note—St. Cecilia's Hymn Book, 3d. New edition in the
Press; ready shortly.

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Goldsmith, Waimate, Messrs Buxton, Temuka, Mr Riorden, Geraldine, Messrs
Shearman, Ashburton, Mr. Hardy, Rakaia, and Mr Hibbs, Methven, all recommend the free use of McKearie HONDAI-LANKA TEA.

DUNEDIN CITY ELECTORATE.

Mr. A. R. BARCLAY invites the ELECTORS to
Meet him as follows:—

FRIDAY, 1st December—North Dunedin Drillshed.
MONDAY, 4th December—Woodhaugh, Wesleyan Hall.

Ladies are specially invited.
Every Evening at 8 o'clock.

MONSTER MASS MEETING,
TUESDAY, 5th DECEMBER,
GARRISON HALL.

DUNEDIN CITY ELECTION.

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

WOODHAUGH MISSION HALL—FRIDAY, December 1st.
ST. ALBANS HALL, Kaikorai Valley—MONDAY, December
4th.

Each Evening at 8 o'clock.

Ladies specially invited to be present.

MONSTER MASS MEETING,
TUESDAY, 5th DECEMBER,
GARRISON HALL.

DUNEDIN CITY ELECTORATE.

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

UNION STREET HALL—FRIDAY, 1st December.

Ladies specially invited.

Each Evening at 8 o'clock.

MONSTER MASS MEETING,
TUESDAY, 5th DECEMBER,
GARRISON HALL.

V.



R.

MOUNT COOK HERMITAGE.

THE season for ALPINE WORK commenced on 1st November.
The Hotel is in charge of Mr. and Mrs. Ross, as before.
Mr. Clark will act as guide up till the end of February.
The huts have been provisioned to meet the wants of tourists
and climbers.

HANMER SPRINGS.

The daily coaching season commenced on 1st November.
For Invalids afflicted with RHEUMATISM, SKIN DISEASES,
etc., the BATHS are ample, and are still in charge of Mr. and
Mrs. Rogers.

The SANATORIUM has accommodation for visitors, and is in
charge of Mr. and Mrs. Macdonald.

A new building for board and lodging at lower rates will be
ready about the New Year.

There are other houses where ample accommodation and excel-
lent rooms may be obtained.

For Coach and railway fares and time-table see *Railway Time-
table and Tourist Guide*.

S. WEETMAN,
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MR. C. R. CHAPMAN'S COMMITTEES

Meet as under:—

FRIDAY—Leith Ward Rooms, Great King's street.

MONDAY—Ladies' Committee, Mrs. Chapman's house, George
street.

TUESDAY—Final Meeting of all Committees, Central Rooms,
Dowling street.

All Meetings at 8 p.m.

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ANSWER TO CORRESPONDENT.

PLATELAYER.—The story of the 'conversion' of the nun in
Grenoble to the Salvation Army is, on the face of it, an insane
invention. There are many convents in Grenoble, and the names
and particulars are cautiously withheld. This is the usual method
of this class of fibster, as the publication of accurate data would
lead to a prompt exposure of the falsehood. Don't trouble yourself
over those missionary yarns, whether they come from the Salvation
Army or any other source. Stuff of this kind must be served up if
the shekels are to be kept rolling in. The thorough-going unrelia-
bility of the usual missionary reports have been scathingly
denounced time and again by such notable Protestant authorities as
Dr. Cust, Rev. H. Hensley Henson, and a host of others. Perhaps
you will remember the glowing returns of conversions by the Con-
naught 'Soupers,' who magnified the few dozen starving
unfortunates whom they induced to temporarily sell their faith for
Indian meal porridge into a vast array of 'converts' almost as great
as the entire population of the province. It brought in the cash,
and that was the main point.

MARRIAGES.

BOURKE—D'ARCY.—On November 8, 1899, at the residence of
the bride's stepfather, P. J. Kelly Esq., Renmore, South Hillend, by
the Rev. Father Walsh, William John, eldest son of the late C.
Bourke, North Canterbury, to Sarah Agnes Josephine, only daughter
of the late Michael D'Arcy, hotelkeeper, Christchurch.

NYHON—HUTCHEON.—On the 4th October, at St. Patrick's
Church, South Dunedin, by the Rev. Father McMullen, Daniel,
eldest son of Mr. John Nyhon, of Sandymount, to Agnes, eldest
daughter of Mr. George Hutcheon, of Seal Point, Sandymount.

DEATH.

M McNULTY.—On Monday, 20th inst., at Cromwell, Maria, second
daughter of the late James McNulty, aged 21 years. Deeply re-
gretted.—R.I.P.

The New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1899.

TALKING PEACE AND PREPARING WAR.



F the folly of faddists and their fads there is no
end. There are some who 'boldly assure us, with
loud and inflexible dogmatism, that the bubonic
plague, cholera epidemics, earthquakes, tidal
waves, and conflagrations are all of immense moral
and physical benefit to the human race. Others
assert the same thing as regards war. Even LECKY
could write of what he termed its 'moral grandeur.'

MOLTKE regarded the wholesale man-slaying of war as a
moral agent of high value, a social necessity, a useful means
of clearing an unwholesome political atmosphere. People
whose minds are constituted in the ordinary way are,
however, at one in regarding war as, even for the victor, a
public calamity. And yet, until some system of inter-
national arbitration is firmly and finally adopted, such
conflicts will be inevitable. The mutual distrust and the
antagonistic interests of the Great Powers may at any time
precipitate a great war. In fact the stormy petrels of
Continental journalism are already uttering warning cries of
possible intervention in the South African campaign which,
if verified in fact, would lead to serious complications among
the Powers. KANT's curious essay on *The Eternal Peace*
was published in 1809. It was much talked of at the time.
But his schemes were visionary and nothing tangible came
of them. A half-hearted attempt at a Peace Federation was
once tried by some of the European States. It took the
form of a Holy Alliance, and its objects was the preserva-
tion of the armistice of which Europe stood in such crying

need at the close of the Napoleonic campaigns. But the Alliance did not last long. It was shattered by dynastic quarrels and rival commercial interests, and its fine-spun hopes were torn to pieces before Sebastopol, in the campaigns of Schleswig-Holstein and Denmark, and on the battle-fields of Puebla, Magenta, Sadowa, Gravelotte, and Plevna.

Its place in European politics was taken by the Triple Alliance on the one hand, and its counterpoise on the other—the *entente* or treaty between France and Russia. These served, after a fashion, to keep the peace. But it was a cumbrous ‘armed peace’ that was only a little less burdensome and costly than actual war. These alliances were based on considerations of mere self-interest. And therein lies the death of the hope that they will long survive or effect much or any lasting good. Of the members of the Triple Alliance, Germany has to keep her grip on Alsace and Lorraine; Italy has an old grudge against France for having seized Nice and Savoy in requital for services rendered at Magenta and Villafranca; and Austria claims a free hand a wider field of influence in the Balkan States. Besides their more immediate and pressing domestic concerns, Russia and France are looking abroad and seeking feverishly to extend their sphere of commercial influence—the one in Equatorial and Western Africa, Tunis, Tonquin, Siam, and China; the other in Turkestan, Persia, India, China, and Japan. Both these alliances have been ostensibly formed to preserve the peace, ‘but their real purpose,’ says LEIBBRAND, ‘is more than ever conquest and power.’ Their mutual distrusts and conflicting interests have paralysed their hands at a time when they might have to some extent justified their existence and won a shred of decent renown by striking a much-needed blow for the cause of outraged humanity in the Ottoman Empire. The chance came when the Armenian Christians were being robbed and massacred by the brutalised soldiery of the ‘unspeakable Turk.’ Any two of the six great European Powers had at hand the means to effectually force the Turk to relinquish his cruel persecution of the Armenians, to punish the delinquents, and to compel the payment of indemnities to the families of the victims. One or two of the Powers were, in fact, favourable to intervention over the Armenian horrors. But mutual distrust stood in the way, and the helpless excuse was sent forth to the world: ‘Isolated action against Turkey would bring on a European war.’ This poor plea was, in the words of RUSSELL WALLACE, ‘a worse condemnation of the Powers than their mere failure to act.’

The Austro-Prussian conflict of 1866, the Mexican campaign, and the gigantic Franco-German struggle were all dynastic wars. They had no sufficient cause, and neither secured, nor were they intended to secure, the well-being of the States engaged in them. But by far the greater number of the wars of the past one hundred and thirty years were wars of commerce. Once on a time kings used to declare war; then cabinets; now it is the Chamber of Commerce and the Stock Exchange. There was a time, as in the Crusading days, when nations fought for a sentiment. But the days of wars of sentiment have passed away. Nowadays the nations are jealously elbowing and jostling each other to secure themselves in their old markets, and to stretch out their hands to set a grip upon the new. For this we have an Eastern Question, and boundary disputes in Alaska and Venezuela, and trouble with Russia on the Persian Gulf, and a Fashoda incident, and a tangle of conflicting ‘spheres of influence’ on the African Continent, and a Samoan imbroglio, and a war with the Transvaal and Free State Boers. For this European peoples are burdened with the maintenance of colossal fleets and armies which afford no hopes of disarmament in our day. Russia’s people die by thousands of famine. But her great military railways and her troop-massing go steadily on. Italy has been driven to the farthest verge of national bankruptcy. But she faces revolution rather than reduce her armaments. France’s war-budget is £35,600,000; Germany’s £44,000,000. The mere armies of the six great European Powers count, on a peace-footing, close on three million men. If we include those permanently attached to the several fleets, the number would considerably exceed three millions. The annual expenditure of the six Powers on and in connection with

war exceeds £180,000,000. ALFRED RUSSEL WALLACE has the following comment on these figures in his most recent work, *The Wonderful Century*:—

Now, as the average wages of a working man (or his annual expenditure), considering the low wages and the mode of living in Russia, Italy, Austria, and the other Continental States, cannot be more than, say, twelve shillings a week, or £30 a year, an expenditure of £180,000,000 implies the constant labour of at least six million other men in supporting this monstrous and utterly barbarous system of national armaments. If to this number we add those employed in making good the public or private property destroyed in every war, or in smaller military or naval operations in Europe, we shall have a grand total of about ten million men withdrawn from all useful or reproductive work, their lives devoted directly or indirectly to the Moloch of war, and who must therefore be supported by the remainder of the working community.

And yet the ‘working community’ tosses its cap and huzzas for wars, the sole or principal object of which is to provide fresh markets or fields of investment for those who hold the money-bags. Verily, it is ‘a wonderful century.’

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN.

The last issue of the *Tasmanian Monitor* contains an interesting and very readable sketch of portions of the Diocese of Dunedin, from the pen of the Rev. T. Kelsh, of Westbury, Tasmania, who was here on a visit a few weeks ago.

Some time ago we mentioned that the Catholics of Middlemarch had purchased a section of land as a site for a church. We now understand that they intend to build a new church very soon, and with the object of assisting in the raising of the necessary funds a bazaar is to be held there on December 28, and continued on the two following days. The ladies of the congregation are now actively engaged in making preparations for this event, which promises, from the generous offers of support made to the Rev. Father Lynch and the committee, to be the best of its kind ever held in the district.

The bazaar in aid of the Catholic Church, Port Chalmers, was brought to a close on Saturday evening. A number of action-songs and dances were given by the children, and songs were contributed by Miss Swanson, Mr. and Mrs. Fillingham, and Mr. Fottrell, Miss Morkane acting as accompanist. Before the proceedings closed the Rev. Father McMullen took the opportunity of thanking his Worship the Mayor, the lady stallholders, especially Miss Staunton of Dunedin, who had furnished the Spanish stall at her own expense, the children who had contributed so much to the entertainment of the visitors, and the band. The cash results of the bazaar, he stated, exceeded £300, sufficient to pay off the parochial debt, and leaving a substantial sum on hand towards the erection of a new convent for the Sisters of St. Joseph. In the list of stallholders in our last issue the names of Mrs. Shaw and Miss Hungerford, who were connected with the refreshment stall, were inadvertently omitted.

WEDDING BELLS.

NYHON—HUTCHEON.

A pretty wedding took place recently at St. Patrick’s Basilica, South Dunedin, the contracting parties being Mr. Daniel Nyhon, eldest son of Mr. John Nyhon, Sandymount, and Miss Agnes Hutcheon, eldest daughter of Mr. George Hutcheon, Seal Point. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Father McMullen, of Port Chalmers. The bride, who was attired in a costume of cream brocade, trimmed with satin and chiffon, was given away by her father, and was attended by her three sisters, Misses Margaret, Catherine, and Jean Hutcheon, as bridesmaids. Mr. James Nyhon, brother of the bridegroom, acted as best man. A large number of friends witnessed the ceremony, after which the wedding party drove to the residence of the bride’s parents at Seal Point, where the breakfast was laid. The bridegroom’s gift to the bride was a gold brooch set with emeralds and sapphires, and to each of the bridesmaids a gold brooch. Several valuable wedding presents were received by the newly-wedded couple.

OBITUARY.

MISS MARIA M’NULTY, CROMWELL.

We regret to record the death of Miss Maria M’Nulty, second daughter of the late Mr. James M’Nulty, which occurred at Cromwell on the 20th inst, at the early age of 21 years. The funeral took place on November 22, and was the largest seen in the district for a number of years, showing the great respect in which the deceased was held. The Rev. Father Hunt conducted the burial service. At the cemetery six young ladies, former schoolmates of Miss M’Nulty, acted as bearers.—R.I.P.

Messrs. Louis Gille and Co., the well-known booksellers of Sydney, draw attention to their list of new books and annals. Among the latter is the *Catholic Home Annual* which contains 64 full-page and other illustrations and stories by the best authors, and for which orders are now being booked.—.

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ORPHAN AND FOUNDLING HOME, JERUSALEM, WANGANUI RIVER.

SAVE THE CHILDREN.

A 'FRIEND of the Homeless Child in New Zealand' writes:—Some time ago one of your correspondents mentioned that collections were being made in this Colony on behalf of certain institutions in London, and remarked that it was strange we should be called upon to send assistance to the poor of the richest city in the world. He maintained that we had enough of poor, of waifs and strays at our own doors whom we were naturally bound to assist, without having to help those of prosperous England. Those remarks were perfectly right, especially as we have in New Zealand an institution for the rescue of a class of children, whom the Government refuses to help, and who, after having spent the first years of their miserable existence in the midst of sinful surroundings are, unless rescued, liable to grow up criminals. The Orphan and Foundling Home at Jerusalem, on the Wanganui River, has been established by Mother Mary Joseph Aubert, and at the present time nearly fifty orphans or foundlings are maintained there, and well cared for by this charitable and benevolent lady. I often wonder how it is that so few people take an interest in this grand and noble work. I understand that the whole responsibility of this institution falls on Mother Aubert, and that her purse and her labours, conjointly with the other Sisters of the Order of Our Lady of Compassion, are the only resources of the establishment. Now and again some charitably disposed person gives a few shillings, perhaps a sovereign, but what is that towards feeding fifty children? I notice that concerts and entertainments have been got up for the purpose of assisting founding homes in London, why not do likewise on behalf of the establishment at Jerusalem? Here is an excellent institution sadly hampered for want of funds. Will not some charitable persons come to its aid by contributions, or by organising entertainments on its behalf? If the initiative were taken in one district, others would be sure to follow the good example. Might not some charitably disposed person circulate a subscription list, as even a little from a number would be of incalculable benefit.

Mrs. Webb, of Waitotara, recognising that 'charity well understood begins at home,' organised some time ago an entertainment in aid of this institution, and the proceeds (£10 as far as I can remember) were forwarded by her to Mother Aubert. This was a substantial proof that such appeals are always generously responded to by the people of Waitotara. Let us hope that this noble example will be followed by people in other parts of the Colony, and that they get up entertainments on behalf of this very deserving object. About a year and a half ago Mother Aubert had a large addition made to the home, so that its accommodation was nearly doubled. The collections in aid of the work did not cover half its cost. The building is again full, and more room is required, but the first thing to be done is to liquidate the debt which now presses so heavily on the establishment and impedes its development. If subscription lists were opened I believe that, with the kind co-operation of friends who desire the salvation of those unfortunate waifs, before long a substantial sum would be realised. Subscriptions can be forwarded direct to Mother Aubert, Jerusalem, Wanganui, or should it be preferred, I have no doubt that the editor of the N. Z. TABLET would kindly receive contributions for this laudable and charitable purpose. I enclose £5 as my mite for the good work.

[The sum of £5 has been received and duly forwarded to its destination. We shall be glad to acknowledge in our columns any donations sent for the objects mentioned above.—ED. N.Z.T.]

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL.

THERE was a gain of 298 persons to the Colony on the immigration and emigration returns of last month. The arrivals numbered 1460, and the departures (including 213 for Alcoa Bay) were 1162. In October, 1898, the arrivals were 1829 and the departures 955.

LAST week (says the *New Era* of October 21) the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan, Bishop of Auckland, New Zealand, opened a bazaar in Waterloo, in aid of the liquidation of the debt on St. Joseph's, Blundell's, of which his cousin, the Rev. W. G. Lennon, is rector.

THE Department of Agriculture is being kept pretty busy supplying demands for eggs for sitting purposes. Already this season between 10,000 and 11,000 have been sold, more than double the number sold last season, and so great is the demand at present that the department has great difficulty in coping with it.

'CATHOLIC' from Wallace, writes complaining that Mr. Gilfedder declared himself at Riverton opposed to any form of State aid for the Catholic schools. In reply to a question he is reported to have said: 'No, he was not in favour of interfering with the present system of education, as it worked very well, etc.' 'Catholic' continues: 'What about the poor Catholics, who have suffered and fought for the last 25 years for justice to their children, who, during that time, have supported their own schools and have been compelled to contribute towards the maintenance of the State institutions? Does Mr. Gilfedder think that the Catholics of Wallace, or in fact the whole of New Zealand, have forgotten the motto of the late revered Bishop Moran, who spent his life time in fighting for justice to his people: "Register your vote and vote for the man that will advocate your cause"? In the face of this, I would ask my fellow Catholics to remember that on Wednesday next, December 6, they have the power placed in their hands to punish the Catholic candidate who would stand on a public platform and give utterance to such sentiments as fell from the lips of Mr. Gilfedder.'

THE Wellington Motor Car Company propose placing motor cars on the streets of the principal towns of the Colony.

THOMAS TRACEY, a lad, was riding his bicycle down the main thoroughfare of Wanganui on Saturday last, when he collided with a horse that was being ridden by a butcher boy. He fell to the ground on his head, and when picked up it was found that his neck had been broken.

It is alleged that the Hon. J. Carroll delivered himself of the following specimen of oratory at Gisborne in reference to the South African war:—The Imperial authorities were at the present time engaged in a little trouble in South Africa, which had stirred the soul of every corner, of every possible tentacle of the Empire which spread over the whole universe. And they all felt proud of their Colony in having responded to the electric touch of Imperial feeling which coursed through the whole of their veins.

THE Catholic schoolroom (says the *Ashburton Mail*) was crowded on Wednesday evening by members of the Catholic Literary Society and their friends, the occasion being an open night entertainment. The evening's programme consisted of 'a mock trial,' in which the procedure of a Supreme Court was carried out with due regard to the importance of the case. Among those present was a number of ladies. At the conclusion of the proceedings the visitors present warmly congratulated the society on having provided such a pleasant evening's amusement.

It is reported that the Government propose to employ a trawler to test the fishing grounds on the New Zealand coast. Parliament voted £500 last session for the purpose, and it is believed that the amount will be sufficient to defray the cost of operations for three months. Mr. Ayson, inspector of fisheries, recently made an inspection of the trawlers in Hawke's Bay waters, and is satisfied that two or three of the vessels are capable of doing the work required. One of them will be chartered for the purpose. Mr. Ayson will accompany the expedition, and will furnish the Marine department with full details of the progress of the work.

MISS E. DOHERTY, who is about to leave Reefton for Grey-mouth, was entertained by a number of her young lady friends at a farewell social (says the *Inangahua Times*). Among the invited guests was the Very Rev. Father McNamara, who, on presenting Miss Doherty with a handsome gold brooch on behalf of her entertainers, referred in a eulogistic manner to that young lady's many estimable qualities evidenced in numerous ways during her lengthy sojourn in Reefton. In church matters she had always rendered valuable assistance, and the Altar Society could testify that her services were always cheerfully and obligingly given. It only remained for him, while expressing regret for Miss Doherty's departure, to sincerely hope that her future life would be a happy one, and although severed from her Reefton friends, he felt sure that she would always be held in kindly remembrance.

THE Postal Department is about to issue a series of pictorial postcards, illustrated with views of New Zealand scenery, and of a larger size than those hitherto supplied. The illustrations, which are exceedingly well executed, are placed at the bottom left hand corner of the card, and comprise views of Queen's wharf, Wellington; Wanganui River; Lake Manapouri; Bealey terrace; Canterbury; Customhouse square, Dunedin; and several others. The work has been artistically carried out by the Government Printing Office, and the cards will be issued almost immediately. The department (says the *New Zealand Times*) is also about to issue a new series of postage-due stamps, which are placed on letters or parcels by the postmaster when extra postage has to be paid. The stamp is of the size of the present penny stamp, printed in green, with the values clearly marked in the centre in red. The words, 'New Zealand, postage due,' also appear in the design. These stamps are printed at the Government Printing Office, on water-marked paper, and are of a very neat and attractive appearance. The proposed change of colour of the half-penny, penny, and twopence half-penny stamps cannot be carried out until the necessary inks are received from England and America, which is expected to be about the end of the year. The half-penny stamps will then be green, the penny red, and the twopence half-penny a darker blue than at present, so as to meet the Postal Union requirements.

IN the course of a speech at Tauranga, Auckland, last week, the Premier admitted that the Hon. J. G. Ward had been wrongly judged, and that his actions had proved him an honourable and upright man. Mr. Ward would be reinstated in the Ministry. Commenting on the Premier's announcement the *Dunedin Evening Star* said editorially:—This information will, we think, be received with very general satisfaction, and will do something to reconcile the opponents of the Ministry to their obtaining a fresh lease of power should such be the verdict of the constituencies. Mr. Ward is, beyond question, the most practically able man of the party; he has shown a broad grasp of colonial and even Imperial questions, and very exceptional capacity as an administrator, having done the State good service in the capacity of Postmaster-General and Telegraph Commissioner, and having successfully conducted delicate negotiations with other colonies and with the Home Government relative to postal and telegraph matters. The community owe to the honorable gentleman many liberal reforms in both the Postal and Telegraph Departments, and the Press have especially to thank him for valuable concessions. He is thoroughly imbued with the advanced spirit of the age, whilst having no very lively sympathy with the communistic Socialism which unfortunately dominates the ideas of certain sections of the Ministerial party. The appointment of Mr. Ward to a portfolio will most undoubtedly strengthen the Ministry, and, if they are to have another three years' term, we may be allowed to hope that Mr. Seddon may still further improve his position by taking to himself colleagues of a very different stamp to some of those who must have been such an embarrassment to him in the last Parliament, and decidedly not worth their salt politically or in administration.

INTERCOLONIAL.

The Rev. A. S. Mullan, O.F.M., of Waverley, left for England on the 25th inst.

The Cardinal-Archbishop of Sydney intends to make a personal appeal in the parishes of the archdiocese in aid of the building fund of St. Mary's Cathedral about the beginning of the year.

In the course of an address at Townsville his Lordship Bishop Higgins said that he intended to introduce the Christian Brothers into the diocese of Rockhampton.

Miss Maud McCarthy has been giving concerts in various towns of New South Wales, where she has met with enthusiastic receptions.

The Dickson Government in Queensland has resigned. There is some probability of a coalition Opposition-Labour Ministry under Mr. Dawson being formed.

The many friends of Mr. William Comans of Temora (says the *Catholic Press*) will receive with regret the intelligence of his death, which occurred recently. The deceased gentleman was 88 years of age at the time of his death, which, though rather sudden, was not altogether unexpected, as his end from senile decay was expected for some time. Mr. Comans was a native of Tipperary, Ireland, and came to New South Wales 56 years ago.

Mr. Coghlan has decided to retire from the New South Wales Public Service Board, and retain the position of Government Statistician. This decision can be regarded with great satisfaction, as although the qualifications for a member of the Public Service Board are fairly high, a vacancy there has a better chance of being suitably refilled than if the colony called for a statistician. The resignation of Mr. Coghlan from the Statistician's office would have been a great loss.

By the death, on the 8th inst., of M. Emile Doublet at the age of 57, the French community in Sydney lost one of its oldest and most esteemed members. His remains were interred in the Waverley cemetery, a solemn *Requiem* Mass being first celebrated at St. Patrick's Church by Father Piquet, assisted by the Very Rev. Fathers Aubrey and Le Rennelet, and Father Guillemin. M. Biard d'Aunet (French Consul-General) and all the leading members of the French community attended the funeral.

By the last mail a letter, written in Paris, was received from Miss Amy Castles by her friends in Melbourne. At the time of writing Miss Castles had just returned after having sung before Madame Viardot-Garcia, who enjoys a reputation as one of the greatest present-day female lyric artists. Madame Garcia gave it as her opinion that Miss Castles was the possessor of a wonderful natural voice that would 'stand plenty of hard work.' Among many splendid qualities, the intonation was particularly good, and altogether, Madame Garcia said, the voice was well worthy of the praise that had been lavished upon it.

Last year Mr. Jerry Flynn, a former resident of Gulgong, was employed at Bullagreen station, near Gilgandra, N.S.W., weighing wool. One day during the shearing his waistcoat, containing a gold watch, chain, and appendage, disappeared. The articles were very much valued by Mr. Flynn, as they had been bequeathed to him by his father, who received them as a presentation while he was in the police force. He naturally concluded that the articles had been stolen, and put the matter in the hands of the police, who, however, failed to find the missing property. Quite recently Mr. Jones, the owner of Bullagreen, received a letter from an English wool-manufacturing firm informing him that on opening one of his bales of wool a waistcoat, containing a gold watch, chain, and appendage, had been found therein. This, of course, clears up the mystery surrounding the disappearance of the articles, and they are now on their way back to Australia.

On November 14 his Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Murray, Bishop of Maitland, had the happiness of celebrating the thirty-fourth anniversary of his consecration. Priests and people marked the occasion in the same spirit of rejoicing as when the venerable and beloved Bishop celebrated his silver jubilee. There were not any public presentations of addresses and gifts as on jubilee day, but many tributes of love, gratitude, and veneration were paid. His Lordship, whose almost complete recovery of health and strength is a matter for congratulation, had by his side on the present occasion his young Coadjutor-Bishop, the Right Rev. Dr. Dwyer. Besides Dr. Dwyer, about 30 priests of the diocese took part in the happy celebration. All the Masses in the Cathedral on Tuesday were very largely attended. In the evening at the Town Hall a conversation arranged by the ladies of St. John's Cathedral parish took place, and the venerable prelate was heartily felicitated on the attainment of 34 years' reign as Bishop of Maitland. Bishop Murray is now in his seventy-third year. When he arrived in Maitland in 1866 there were six priests, 20 churches, 12 schools, and one convent in the diocese, extending 160 miles along the coast districts, the remotest part being 800 miles from Maitland. There are now in the present much smaller diocese as regards area (portions having been cut off to form the dioceses of Armidale and Grafton) 60 churches, 24 chapels, one college, 16 high schools, 36 primary schools, one monastery, one orphanage, and an institution for the deaf and dumb at Waratah. The priests number 41; there are 26 convents, with 165 nuns; while 4370 children attended the schools out of a diocesan population of 30,000. The religious Orders Dr. Murray has established in his diocese are the Redemptorist Fathers, the Marist Brothers, Dominican Nuns, Sisters of Mercy, Sisters of St. Joseph, and the Brigidine Nuns.

Mr. J. F. Arnold will hold a meeting at Woodhaugh Mission Hall on Friday, and at St. Alban's Hall, Kaikorai Valley, on Monday. He will also address the electors at the Garrison Hall on Tuesday evening.—* *

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

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

Mafeking was reported to be safe on the 20th inst, but in consequence of the lack of pure water fever was prevalent. The health of the besieged was being affected in consequence of having to live under ground. The Boer entrenchment lines are being drawn closer around the town, and an incessant fire is maintained by the enemy.

A vigorous bombardment of Kimberley has been kept up for some days.

General Methuen, who commands the Kimberley relief column, consisting of a force of 10,000 men, on Thursday attacked the Boers in a strongly-entrenched position at Belmont, defended by five guns. A breach was made, and the British stormed three ridges in succession. The Boers fought with great courage and skill, but the British victory was complete. Forty Boer prisoners were taken, and the enemy's loss was heavy. A large quantity of stores and ammunition was destroyed, and many horses and cows captured. Three British officers were killed and 22 wounded. Fifty-eight privates were killed and 130 wounded. Eighteen men are missing.

Later despatches state that from 6000 to 8000 Boers were engaged at Belmont. The fighting commenced in the semi-darkness. The Boers occupied a very strong position and fought from behind boulders. In making the attack the British had to climb rocky ridges in the face of the enemy's heavy fire. The Boers made a very determined stand and fought until the last.

The position, which was about 10 miles east of Belmont, and commanded the road to Kimberley, was a very strong one and considered almost impregnable, especially the last ridge, which necessitated a steep climb of 500 feet.

A Capetown message, under date November 27, reports that the Boers at Draspan, a little to the north of Belmont, attacked General Methuen, who replied with shrapnel. The Naval Brigade, Yorkshires, and North Lancashires carried the heights after four hours' furious fighting. The enemy early in the fight attacked the rear guard and baggage train, but the Grenadier Guards met this, and also protected the flanks. It is known that 51 Boers were killed and 48 wounded. Many prisoners were taken.

Four hundred Cape Dutch, including the magistrate, at Barkly East, have joined the Boers. They have seized and occupied the town of Lady Grey, near Aliwal North.

It is estimated that there are 9500 British troops in Ladysmith and 14,000 divided between the towns of Durban, Pietermaritzburg, and Estcourt. Lack of cavalry is delaying Major-general Cley's advance to the relief of Ladysmith.

Major-general Hildyard, in charge of the Ladysmith relief column, surprised the Boers at Willow Grange, South of Estcourt. The British charged the enemy and bayoneted 80 of them. The British loss was three killed and 44 wounded.

Ten thousand British troops are said to be marching northward from Estcourt.

The New Zealand Contingent arrived at Capetown last week, and the New South Wales and other Australian troops arrived there in the beginning of this week.

Mr. A. R. Barclay invites the electors of Dunedin to meet him on Friday next at the Drillshed, North Dunedin, and on Monday at the Wesleyan Hall, Woodhaugh. A monster meeting is to be held on Tuesday evening at the Garrison Hall.—* *

Wheeling says that—'The day of cheap single tube tyres has gone in America, and although a few cheap and trashy tyres continue to be sold, there has been a considerable change for the better, and the preference for good grade tyres is noticeable.' The same is equally applicable to Australian cyclists, ninety-nine out of every hundred of whom swear by the detachable Dunlop tyre, on account of its reliability and ease of detachment.—* *

Visitors to Queenstown will find first-class accommodation at McBride's family hotel. This well-known establishment is replete in each department with every requisite and of the best quality obtainable. Patrons may rest assured of receiving excellent attention, combined with civility and home comforts. A porter attends the arrival and departure of steamers, and first-class hacks and vehicles are kept for the convenience of excursionists.—* *

An important notice with regard to Mount Cook Hermitage and Hanmer Springs appears elsewhere in this issue. The hotel is still in charge of Mr. and Mrs. Ross, and Mr. Clarke will act as guide up to the end of February. The huts have been provisioned to meet the wants of tourists and climbers. For invalids afflicted with rheumatism, skin diseases, etc., the baths at the Hanmer Springs are ample, and the sanatorium has accommodation for visitors. A new building for board and lodging at lower rates will be ready about the beginning of the year. There are other houses where ample accommodation and excellent rooms may also be obtained.—* *

Messrs. Dwan Bros., hotel brokers, Wellington, report having sold the following hotel properties:—Mr. Robert Darroch's interest in the Club Hotel, Lambton Quay, Wellington, to Messrs. W. Manning and R. Baker, well known in commercial circles in this city; Mr. Henry T. Hawker's interest in the Rainbow Hotel, Kaiwarra, to Mrs. Goldfinch; Mr. William Piper's interest in the White Horse Hotel, Ngahauranga, to Mr. James Woods, an old Wellington resident; Captain W. G. North's interest in the Terminus Hotel, Picton, to Mr. Bernard McGuire, late of the Ranfurly Hotel, Wellington; Mr. John Hunter's interest in the Central Hotel, Otaki, to Mr. John Simpson, late of the Railway Hotel, Woodville; also the purchase of the Tavistock Hotel, Waipukurau, for Mr. George Ross, late of the Panama Hotel, Wellington.—* *

People We Hear About.

Mr. Sims Reeves, the veteran vocalist, entered on his eighty-second year on September 26.

An Irishman has been chosen Chief of the Winnebago tribe of Indians, in succession to Black Hawk, who recently died. The new chief, Thomas Roldy, of Chicago, will be known as 'White Buffalo.'

Mary Harriet Columbo Robinson, a direct descendant of Christopher Columbus, died lately from old age. She was in her eighty-first year. Her maiden name was Columbo, which family had died out and has no representative now.

A pretty story, told of the Queen of the Belgians, is going the rounds of the Press. As is well-known, her Majesty has a particular liking for her summer residence at Spa, for there she is surrounded by a few faithful old friends and servants, and is free from all the restraint imposed by strict court etiquette. It is well-known, too, that her Majesty is a skilled horsewoman and walker. Despite the precarious state of her health since her almost fatal illness last winter, the Queen keeps to her old habit of going out on foot or on horseback every day, no matter how inclement the weather may be. Quite recently, during the first September showers, she set out on foot accompanied by one or two faithful friends, to walk through the country towards Chaufontaine. A heavy shower of rain came on and obliged the party to take a temporary refuge in a peasant's cottage. Inside sat a poor old woman, all alone. In rising to welcome the visitors, she turned towards her Majesty and murmured: 'It strikes me that you are the Queen,' and with rustic sincerity she added: 'You don't look young, how old are you?' The Queen smilingly replied: 'I am sixty-four.' 'In that case,' answered the old peasant woman, 'you owe me respect; I am older than you, I am seventy.' Her Majesty smiled good naturedly, bowed low before her rustic elder, saying: 'You are much older and much prettier than I, so I admit you are right. I do owe you respect.'

Among the war correspondents now in South Africa is Mr. R. J. M'Hugh, who represents the *Daily Telegraph*. Mr. M'Hugh, who is a Galway man, had been for some time on the reporting staff of the Dublin *Freeman's Journal* in the gallery of the House of Commons.

The new Prince-Archbishop of Prague, Baron Leo Skrbensky von Hristie, will be a very young bishop and unusually young metropolitan, for he was born as late as 1863. Having studied theology in Rome and Olmütz, he was ordained priest only ten years ago, in 1889. His first few years were spent as a curate, and it was not till 1895 that he became parish priest at Meltsch, in Silesia, and very soon after was made Canon of the Chapter of Olmütz.

It seems to have escaped notice that (says the *New Era*) Mrs Catherine Parr Traill, whose death in Canada was announced a few days ago, was a sister of Agnes Strickland. It is now nearly seventy years since she married and went to the New World. In the *Life of Agnes Strickland*, by another sister, Jane Margaret, there is an odd story of Mrs. Traill's sister-in-law, who from an austere Presbyterian had become an equally earnest Catholic, and was eventually prioress of St Margaret's Convent, Edinburgh. This lady is probably the only person who ever seriously set out to convert the Pope to Presbyterianism. Miss Traill, being 'deeply versed in controversial divinity,' imagined she could not only confute the Pope—it was Pius IX.—by her convincing arguments, but could convert him to her own tenets. She actually went to Rome for the purpose; but Pio Nono, who was instructed as to what was in store for him, declined the audience for which she asked, on the ground that ecclesiastical etiquette did not permit him to grant private interviews to ladies. But the Pope's keen sense of humour got the better of him to some extent, and he deputed a Scottish priest to hold the disputation. When Miss Traill endeavoured to show that Rome was the City of the Seven Hills of Revelations this astute dialectician proved that it was Edinburgh, and that not the Pope, but John Knox was the Man of Sin. The result was that the lady became a Catholic in a fortnight.

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The Storyteller.

THE HERO OF THE LIGHTHOUSE.

EARLY in the eighties, of all the lights along the Florida Reef that at Rebecca Shoals was held as least attractive. A shoal beacon, it stood up from the water; under it and on each side was ocean. The keepers were estranged from their families. No woman is allowed to stay overnight in a lighthouse such as this; and at its base was no point, however small, where shelter could be erected.

Nineteen miles away was the Dry Tortugas, with Garden Key, old Fort Jefferson and the quarantine station. The surgeon, assistant and a few pilots with their wives and children were the nearest neighbours of Rebecca Shoals.

At this time the keepers in the lighthouse were Matthew Welsh, John Fordyce and Andrew Buckley. In storm and calm, as soon as the sun dropped from sight behind a glorious west, the cyclops eye of the light opened, showing red over the shoals and white over the channels. Through the night the three men watched, through the day they tidied the room, cleaned the lamp mechanism, and in other ways lived up to the government regulations. Monotony reigned, for a programme of recreation in the shape of fishing, the perusal of old periodicals and an occasional trip to Key West, eventually palled. To John Fordyce the one bright spot in his existence was Helen Welsh.

When duty would permit he sailed in the lighthouse dingey to Garden Key, where was the girl of his heart. On the Key, grateful for even the infrequent visits of their husbands, lived the wives of the two married keepers. At intervals Helen, alone or with her mother, spent the day at the light, speeding across the miles of ocean to see her father. To her the ocean was a foster parent, for her father and her grandfathers had been sailors, and the waves treated her as one akin. No pilot, no fisherman, on all the Keys could manage a boat better than she. She was as fearless as a gull and could swim like a dolphin.

The courtship of Fordyce, pursued openly, yet diffidently, as is apt to be the case with a man little accustomed to women, met with favour from all concerned. Helen bridled and blushed at good-natured quips and jests aimed at her romance. Mrs. Welsh, hearty and wholesome, ruddy with rich red blood purified by the oxygen of the sea breeze, saw in John Fordyce 'a right proper lad for any lass, even my own.' Mr. Welsh broke through the reserve engendered by years of lonely communion with the storm and billow, and admitted that 'Jack's an honest lad ez lads go.'

The remainder of the Key population smiled on the growing intimacy of the young couple, and on the broad sea-wall encircling the moat of the ruined fort were silhouetted, time and again, the strolling figures of Helen and Jack.

One night a gale swept the Florida Reef. The wind whistled and swirled around Rebecca Shoals light, hurling the spray against the windows many feet above the water. The stout framework trembled, but the men felt no uneasiness, trusting in the staunchness of the structure, and having passed through scores of similar attacks. Matthew and Jack were on watch together, seeing that the lamp was in perfect condition. Seabirds, bewildered by the tempest and blinded by the beams from the powerful reflector, dashed against the thick glass, to die.

'I allus pity the pore things,' remarked the elder man. 'I hev set out hundreds o' storms, an' I never kin git ust to the sight o' them birds breakin' their necks against the glass.'

'Pears like it can't be helped, though,' returned the other. 'An' I reckon they never know what ails 'em.'

A violent gust, and right against the northern glass of the room was flung a gull. The wind pressed it flat on the pane, and fluttering helplessly it hung there, with one wing useless, and the single pinion beating in vain endeavours. The red-rimmed eyes seemed to appeal to the men, who were just below.

'Association with the sea softens the heart.'

'Look at that, will you?' exclaimed old Matthew. 'By George, I can't stan' it, to see a dumb critter suffer so.'

'Yes, but I dunno ez we kin do anything,' responded Jack. 'When the storm lulls a little I'll go out an' pick it up. Guess it hez a busted wing.'

'Wait fer the storm to lull, and let that bird heng ther all that time? I'd be shamed! I'm goin' ter fetch it in now.'

'Matt, you're crazy. The wind'll blow you over the railin'. Hold a little, an' I'll go out. That's no use riskin' life fer a bird.'

Matthew, rising gave him a look of contempt, and strode to the narrow door.

'I never thought it o' you, John Fordyce. Ef you're a coward, I'm not.'

With an effort he pulled open the door. The roar of the gale sounded loudly. The door slammed shut, and he was gone. Jack sprang hastily from his seat and gazed at the window where was pressed the bird. Suddenly the gull vanished. Fordyce opened the door, and Matthew, wet and breathless, his white hair and beard dripping, plunged in, the bird in his hand.

He did not notice the younger keeper, but seating himself examined carefully his feathered charge. Whittling some splints and procuring some cord he gently bound the fractured wing and placed the patient in a corner of a basket, where it crouched fearfully.

'Hed a hard time, didn't you?' queried Jack.

Matthew did not answer.

'Spec the wind is blowin' forty or fifty knots, 'bout'?

Still no reply.

'What's the matter of you, Matt?'

Welsh turned and gazed sorrowfully at the speaker. 'Jack,' he said earnestly, 'I allus thought you wuz a man not afeared o' anything, sea or lan'. But when you let an ol' man like me go whar you wouldn't go, even ef fer sake o' only a bird, why, I know I've been mistook in my opinion o' you. Jack, you hev been a-courtin' my lass, an' a right likely pair you hav' 'peared to me. Marthy is proud o' you, and so was I. You might hev married the girl, fer I guess she's willin'. She thinks you the bes' man on the Keys. But we've all misjudged you. You're a coward!'

Fordyce flushed through his coat of tan and started with surprise.

'Why, Matt!' he exclaimed. 'You don't mean what you're sayin', do you? I'd jest ez lief hev went out after the bird. I didn't heng back 'cause I was afeared. I thought to wait till a lull come. An' I didn't count on you goin'. You know that. You went out afore I could stop you.'

'No ust wastin' words, Jack. You showed the white feather—an' I dunno where you got it, either. Your blood's good. What'll Helen say?'

'Looky here, Matt Welsh. You've called me a coward, an' the only man in the world I'd 'low to do it an' not eat his words. You're older 'n I be, an' you're the father o' the girl I love, an' I wouldn't lay han's on you. But some day you'll take back what you've said. I'm no coward. It is ridic'ulous to stir up all this fuss 'bout a gull, anyway.'

'That's jest it, Jack. A man oughter be tender to bird an' beast. An' ef you wouldn't risk a little for a pore, crippled thing ez couldn't help it'self I hol' it's a purty good test. I reckon you might not be a man to suit my lass.'

'God knows, Mathew Welsh, Helen would never come to harm ef my arm could protect her. Why, don't you 'member the time I hauled her out o' the sea off East Key, in the capsiz? Why, I swum a mile with her.'

'Yes, I 'member that, o' course. But it's the little things that a woman counts on. Piles o' men show up well on big trials, but when it comes to savin' a bird, or givin' a woman a tender, lovin' pat, they forgit. No, Jack, you don't understan' what I mean.'

'Reckon there's no gain in arguin'. But you've hurt me, Matt, an' until I hear you say, "Jack, I was wrong," I can't get over it. You ain't no objection to my seein' Helen, I s'pose?'

'Certainly not.' 'I've nothin' agin you, aside from what I've spoke of, an' I'm not sayin' you're not a good lad. But I want you to think before you ask me for Helen. That's all.'

'I tell you right hear, Matt, I'll never ask you for Helen until you take back what you've called me to night. You can depen' on that.'

'Well, enough, lad. We'll not talk of it any more. It's time to rouse Andy.'

Confined together in a lighthouse, men grow uncommunicative. Feelings are stifled. After the events of this night, and the unusual outburst by Matthew, affairs at Rebecca Shoals moved on in the monotonous routine. Apparently Welsh and Fordyce were on the same footing as before. But the distrust expressed so bluntly by the rugged keeper had cut deep into the heart of the younger man. He venerated Matthew for his sterling worth, his many kindnesses and for the daughter's sake. He did not entertain resentment.

'Pears to me I ain't mad, only jes' hurt,' said Jack to himself. But he burned to clear his character of the imputations directed against it by Matthew.

'Durn you,' Jack addressed the gull, now rapidly recovering. 'You've got me into a heap o' trouble. I've a notion to throw you out the window. Me a coward! I'll show 'im.'

He continued to meet Helen at Garden Key or at the light and at the first opportunity told her of his conversation with her father. Not that he was afraid Matthew would influence the girl against him—old Matthew was not one to work under-handed—but he wanted Helen's opinion.

'Jack,' she said, 'I know you aren't a coward. 'You'd 'a' got the bird willin', I doubt not, if you'd 'a' thought father was so bent on it. An' I know you aren't afraid to go any place. But father was ahead of you that time. He's so queer about animals sufferin'. An' gulls—I guess he's been with 'em so much he holds 'em for humans. But you wait, an' it'll come out right.'

They were sailing back to Garden Key, Helen in the stern and Jack farther forward.

'Ma thinks you're a fine fellow, anyhow,' continued the girl, hesitatingly, in an attempt to soothe the smart in her lover's heart.

'An' what do you think, Helen,' said Jack boldly.

'Oh! I don't go with a man I don't respect,' she returned, tossing her head.

'Respec'—is that all, Helen?' inquired Jack eagerly.

Helen coloured like a rose, and with face gazing off over the end of the beam replied softly:

'You ought to know, Jack.'

The dingey yawed sharply and the sail flapped in a most slovenly fashion. When the course was again laid the boat was trimmed differently. Two figures, instead of one sat in the stern.

A month after this, on a February evening, black clouds rolled from the northeast up towards the zenith, pursuing the setting sun, and shadowing the ocean. The edges of the masses were torn and tattered. Through and between the advancing vapors flashed the lightning. After a day at the light Helen was on the point of leaving for Garden Key. Matthew had been ill a week, and either Mrs. Welsh or the daughter had hovered at his bedside continually during the daytime. Now the girl and Jack stood on the platform of the tower, surveying the approaching storm.

'We're goin' to hev a blow, sure 'nough, Helen,' said the man.

'It looks like a bad un, too. You can't start. It'd ketch you afore you'd went a mile.'

'But, Jack, I mus' go. It's against rules for me to stay here, and then motho'r'll get crazy when I don't appear on time.'

'She'll know you're here. An' it's better to hev her scared an' you turn up safe an' scoun' than to hev you drowned. No mortal

kin ride out a storm like this will be, in a dingey. Ef I don't miss it, it'll worry some other vessels, too. I never seen a worse sky.'

Even as he spoke a dash of rain pattered on them, and a fierce gust caused them to clutch the railing. In an instant more, with a howl and crash, flare of lightning and bellow of thunder, the tempest enfolded Rebecca Shoals.

'Andy'll never get here to-night, I reckon,' observed Jack, when he and Helen were safely within the protecting walls. 'He went to the Key at noon, you know.'

'That's so,' assented Helen. 'He's in the same fix I am.'

'With Matt sick that'll leave me to ten' light alone. I've set up many the time, though, an' this spell won't hurt me. How d'ye feel, Matt?' stepping to the bunk of the old keeper.

'Not very spry, Jack. Wher's Helen?'

'Here I am, father.'

'You mustn't try to go in sech a gale, lass. Hez Andy come yet?'

'No, sir,' answered the girl.

'Then you'll hev to ten' light, Jack, fer I'm not able to be about.'

'All right, Matt. Reckon I'd better set 'er goin' now; it's gettin' so dark,' responded Fordyce, awkwardly adjusting a pillow. 'You're in good han's, an' I'm mighty glad Helen's here. I'll climb up now. Ef I'm wanted you know how to git me, Helen.'

In an hour the rain had slackened, but the wind continued to blow, lashing the tower with great waves. All chances of Helen returning to Garden Key that night had passed, and with it any latent hope that Andy, the other keeper, would appear. Jack was forced to stick to his post in reach of the lamp, and below Helen nursed her father. A little after midnight Jack was startled by Helen opening the door.

'Oh, Jack,' she said, 'can't you come down, just for a moment. Father's in a kind of stupor, an' I can't rouse him. An' the medicine's all gone, too.'

Fordyce leaped to the stairway, and in a second was bending anxiously over the bunk.

'Matt!' he called.

Welsh moved uneasily. The voice seemed to bring to him glimmering consciousness. Helen stroked his forehead. 'What!' he answered, drowsily, and lapsed again into his lethargy.

'Is the med'cine used up, sure?' inquired Jack of the girl.

'Every drop. The bottle was knocked over an' a lot spilt. What can we do, Jack? We must stimulate him some way.'

'We'll rub him,' said the man. 'Mebbe that'll help.'

Their efforts were in vain. Matthew refused to respond.

'He needs something to brace him up, that's what he needs,' observed Jack.

'The medicine was for that,' explained Helen. 'Oh, dear!'

Matthew's breathing was growing laboured. Outside moaned and shrieked the gale. Suddenly it sank to a ghostly whisper. The wheezing of the sick man was now painfully apparent.

'By George, I'm not goin' to let ol' Matt Welsh die like a dog, while I kin help it!' spoke Fordyce. 'Kin' you ten' light, sweet-heart?'

'Me ten' light? Of course I can! But what do you mean? You arn't—'

'Yes, I be, I'm going to take your father to Garden Key, wher' Doc Morgan kin git at 'im. It's a shame to hev 'im die this way, when he hez a chance o' livin'.'

'Jack, you mustn't. You'd both be drowned. It's suicide.'

'Lucky here, Helen. Don't you stop me. I've been bidin' my time to prove I'm not a coward. He called me that, an' I've jes' been waitin' an' waitin' ever since. Whether or no he knows what I do, I'll take 'im to Garden Key this very night. I'll do it because he called me a coward, and 'cause he's your father, and hez been a good frien' to me.'

The girl clung to his neck. 'Jack, Jack,' she sobbed. 'I can't let you. I can't let you.'

'Lass,' he said gently, holding her tightly, 'you wouldn't hev me a coward would you? An' the wind's fell like everything, an' I kin make the trip, I know. You'll see me comin' back inside o' six hours to tell you Matt's safe an' 'bout well. See here, and he threw wide the door.'

The moon was shining fitfully between scudding clouds. The wind was still blowing briskly, and the huge waves rose from the base of the tower seemingly nearly to the platform. A wild night, and one not disposed to quiet the fears of the girl.

'It's 19 miles. 'Oh, Jack!' was all she said.

'Remember, he called me a coward, Helen.'

They closed the door and Welsh's low breathing drew Helen to the bunk. Something must be done to cause his blood to circulate or he would die before morning. Jack ran up the stairs and in a moment returned. He lifted his coat from the hook and put on his hat, pulling it snugly down.

'I've seen to the lamp,' he said. 'It's all right, an' I think it won't need touchin'. You understan' it, anyway. Now, I'm goin' to lower the boat, ef you'll bear a han' on the tackle. Git it into the water onct, to lu'ard here, an' the rest's fun, you see.'

'Are you really goin', Jack?' asked the girl, standing in front of him, her eyes brimming with unshed tears, but steadfast.

'That I be, lass,' was the resolute response.

She leaned forward and kissed him on the brow, tenderly, reverently, as though consecrating him for some noble work.

'You're a brave man,' she said, simply. 'My lover, how proud I am of you. I'll expect you back to-morrow, sure, dear. I'll look for you. So hold in mind, an' God willin' I'll see you again—my Jack.'

'I'll come, never fear,' he answered, gathering her into his arms. 'Ther's never a gale I couldn't beat fer the sake o' sech a welcome waitin' fer me. Now let's hurry. He,' indicating Matthew, 'can't las' much longer. B'lieve the bes' thing to do is to put 'im in the boat fir'st, afore we lower away. I dunno ez I kin carry him down, with the wind blowin' an' the footin' slip'ry.'

The unconscious Matthew was wrapped in a blanket, and borne out on to the platform. The boat was swung as nearly as possible, under him, and while Helen held it steady, Fordyce, exercising all his strength, placed in the craft the body of the keeper.

Fortunately, the wind was dying to a moderate velocity. The storm was over. The waves, however, were running high. The man and the girl lowered the boat, until on the lanky water it tossed hither and thither, straining at the tackle.

Now it was a question of but a few moments ere it would fill. Time was of the utmost value. Not wasting an instant Jack clambered down the ladder, shouting a good-bye as he descended.

He caught the dingey, as it hung poised beneath him, on the crest of the wave, and tumbled in. For a brief glimpse Helen saw him. Then the tackle dangled idly in the wind, and boat, lover, and father had disappeared.

Jack found the dingey had about a foot of water in the bottom. He did not attempt to attend to this, or to the poor old keeper, who was doubled between two seats, knocked into a heap by the waves. His sole endeavours were directed to riding the seas that threatened to engulf the craft, until, in the space of twenty minutes, he had become accustomed to the onslaught of the billows.

Before casting off the tackle he had stepped the mast and shaken loose the sail, thankful that it was double-reefed as when last used. The wind blew quartering, flinging the mist and spray against the man's cheek, as he sat peering ahead. The boat rushed into the hollows, and rising on the white-capped summits plunged furiously into phosphorescent depths. More sail would bury the boat; less leeway would swamp her. All Jack could do was to take a turn with the sheet around a cleat, and staring into the darkness trust to his strong arms and his skill to avert, by steering, the tremendous force of the waves.

Welsh's cramped attitude pained Fordyce. Taking advantage of successive favourable moments he tore out one of the seats so that the patient could lie full length. He shoved him toward the bows, the better to trim the boat, and bolstered him against another seat, thus elevating his head out of danger of suffocation by incoming water. These movements were hazardous, but necessary.

The dingey drove on and on through the night, ever toward Garden Key. Despite the efforts of Fordyce masses of water would slap into the boat. Incessant bailing was essential to safety. His arms were tired. His wrists ached. The tension on his nerves was terrible. The dingey seemed to be darting along with prodigious speed, but he knew better. He knew progress was slow, and that the peril never lessened.

An error in judgment and his life would be grimly snuffed out. He was alone, with Death close watching him. Demons swooped past him, blinding him, twitching at his hair and garments. But, when about to yield to weariness and let the worst come, he thought of Helen awaiting his return, and across the waste the eye of the light at Rebecca Shoals blazed encouragement. Helen was there. His blood warmed at the token, and he shut his teeth with determination.

Suddenly, to his surprise, Matthew spoke:

'Helen! Jack! Here! What's the matter?'

'Hello, Matt. Don't be scart. It's me, Jack, an' I'm takin' you to Garden Key.'

The sick man half-raised himself.

'Garden Key! Great God, what d'ye mean? In this storm?'

'Storm's past now, Matt. You've been sleepin', and we was afeared you were gittin' worse, so I'm a-takin' you to Doc Morgan. The med'cine's run out, you see. Guess the water's woke yo' up. It comes in an' I can't help it.'

'Why, Jack, lad,' said Matthew, hoarsely, 'we'll never git ther. This is the foothardest thing ever I heard of. You'd a better lemme die, ruther'n kill us both. Wher's Helen?'

'She's tendin' light. Don't you worry. We'll git ther. We've got to go on now. We're mos' ther, you know. You res' easy. I kin handle the boat like a top.'

As if to mock his assertion an angry flood swirled over the gunwale, pouring in triumphantly.

'Few more like that,' muttered Fordyce, 'an' our goose is cooked.'

For a short time silence ensued. Fordyce thought Matthew had sunk into his stupor. But no.

'Jack!' feebly.

'Yes, sir.'

'You mus' put me over, Jack. I can't las' much longer, I feel it—I'm goin' fas'. 'Twouldn't be drownin', you see, and 'twould lighten the boat. Don't wait, Jack.'

'Put you over, you say. No, siree, when you go, I go. You jes' sleep, an' I'll hev you at Garden Key mighty quick now.'

Again a wave swept over. Fordyce bailed desperately. On his left ear fell these words, dropped one by one from lifeless lips:

'Jack—I—I—was—wrong—lad.'

'God bless you fer sayin' that, Matt,' said Jack.

There was no reply, and he devoted his energies to clearing the dingey of as much water as he could while keeping his course. The sea was rougher, indicating shoals, and his danger increased.

Afar, oh, so far, he beheld the Fort Jefferson light on Garden Key. Would they live to reach the haven? Was his companion already dead? Would he follow in a moment? The exertions were telling on him. His arms were numb. He was chilled to the bone, stiff from his constrained position and his wrenched muscles. The water in the boat was gaining on him. But he must not, could not, fail of his purpose. Yet he felt he would die happy, if he die he should—Matthew acknowledged he was not a coward.

An hour passed. The walls of the fort were visible, for the sky was becoming gray. Five more miles. God! Could he hold out? For—three—a long, weary bailing, bailing all the time. Two miles. He could see the wall where he and Helen had so often strolled. And Helen was waiting for him, like a brave, true lass, and he must not disappoint her. If he could but make a turn in

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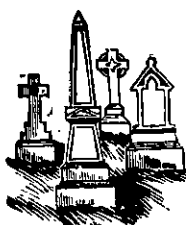
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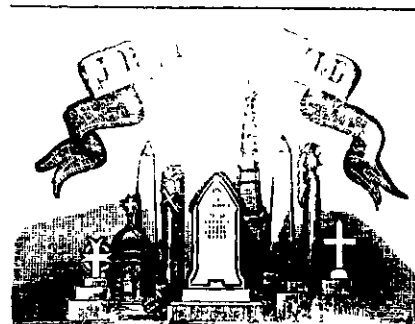
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By order,

A. FULTON, Secretary.

BEATH AND CO., DRAPERS, CHRISTCHURCH.

respectfully request your support and kind recommendation.

the channel just ahead he would be comparatively safe. Now! Twist the tiller to port, hard! Over with the boom! Water towering above, foaming in up to the seats! Matthew awash! Nose of the dingy under! Will she rise? Will she? Will—yes. The Lord be praised.

Only a half-mile to go, and the force of the waves broken by the coral reefs. It seemed to him that he could not survive those 20 minutes. He had not the strength to lift old Matthew from his perilous bed in the bottom of the boat, where the water covered his face to his lips. Nearer they sped, and nearer. At last the boat grated on the sand of the beach. Like a drunken man Jack staggered up the incline, over the moat, through the ever-open sally-port, and along the coach-bordered walk to the surgeon's quarters.

'Who's there?'
'It's me. Jack Fordyce. From Rebecca Shoals.'
The surgeon swung the door.
'How in the world did you get here, Jack? What's wrong?'
'Matthew—he's sick—down in the dingy—see him—' and Jack sank to the floor of the verandah.

Lying in the water in the bottom of the boat, washed from side to side as the waves rocked the craft, the surgeon found Matthew Welsh dead. And, according to the opinion of the officials, he had been dead two hours or more.

Fordyce did not return that day to Helen, for in a delirium he fought over again the struggles of the night, and did not regain reason for a week and a day. Helen came to him.

Matthew was buried on desolate Bird Key, and there his head-board can be seen.

Jack married Helen.

Thus on the annals of Dry Tortugas is emblazoned the tale of how, through the darkness and over the raging seas, across 19 miles of stormy water, Jack Fordyce bore from Rebecca Shoals to Garden Key the body of the old lighthouse-keeper.

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.—*.

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.—*.

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Timaru	6d	1s 0d	1s 6d	2s 9d	4s 0d	4s 6d

Auckland	Each addi-	20lb	50lb	100lb
Napier	1s	2s 6d	3s 6d	4s 0d
Well'ng'tn	to 9lb, 3d.	2s 6d	3s 6d	4s 6d

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W. H. HAYDON begs to inform his old customers and the public generally that he has taken the above Hotel, and that he will be glad to see them, and that nothing will be wanting to make those who patronise him comfortable.

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The Catholic World.

BELGIUM.—Visit of English Orphanage Boys.—A visit was paid to Belgium recently by the Orphans' Band of the Buckley Hall Orphanage, Rochdale, which is under the direction of the Brothers of Charity. The little visitors met with an enthusiastic reception from the people of Ghent, where they played by special invitation at the Provincial Exhibition. Thousands fought for admission, and all seats were occupied a full hour prior to the announced time for the concert. Such unlooked-for success won for their conductor, Mr. William Warburton, a special acknowledgement from the committee and for the boys a gold medal as a special mark of appreciation from the committee, who sent a deputation to bid them farewell. They made a brilliant display of their talent and abilities in Turnhout, and in the Zoological Gardens, Antwerp, where they gave their final concert before a numerous and select audience.

CANADA.—The Golden Jubilee of a Priest.—Rev. Father Pallier, of the University of Ottawa, has celebrated the golden jubilee of his religious profession as a member of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate. He was the pioneer priest of the Ottawa district. Born in France 72 years ago when a young man he went to Canada. At one time he was Superior of the University of Ottawa.

ENGLAND.—A Loss to the Birmingham Diocese.—The diocese of Birmingham has lost one of its ablest of its priests by the death of Canon McCave, D.D., of Solihull. Canon McCave was born in Wolverhampton 63 years ago. He received his early education at Sedgley Park, a place on the suburbs of his native town, and the then preparatory seminary for the clergy of the Birmingham diocese. Oscott was the next scene of his mental labours, where, as at Sedgley Park, his great abilities were soon recognised and rewarded. From Oscott to Rome he journeyed for the completion of his higher studies. In that world's centre of learning he took the degree of Doctor of Divinity with great *clat*, making what is known as a 'Public Act' Among the missions in which he laboured may be mentioned Kidderminster, Stourbridge, and St. Chad's, Birmingham. From 1867 to 1872 he was headmaster of the Grammar School in Summer Hill, Birmingham, and later on was rector of the Olton Seminary, now in the possession of the Capuchins. Canon McCave also filled the office of diocesan religious inspector of schools. As a preacher his place was in the first rank.

Catholicism in Hull.—There was a large meeting of Hull Catholics recently to celebrate the centenary of the mission. Canon

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JAMES LISTON ... Proprietor
(Late of the Douglas Hotel).

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Two of Alcock's best Billiard Tables.

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We invite all who enjoy A Good Glass of Beer to ask for
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On Draught at almost all Hotels in the City and surrounding districts.
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Sullivan presided, and others present included Canon Wood, Fathers Flanagan, Noone, Kelly, and Dodds, Mr. E. Dixon, Dr. and Mrs. Walton, Dr. Aikman, and the Misses Scott, Canavan, and Collingwood. Father Bernard Vaughan gave an address entitled 'Christ Himself responsible for the faith which Catholics profess.' The announcement that from fourteen Catholics a hundred years ago the present Catholic population of Hull had risen to 14,000 elicited great applause.

The Requisites of a Good Catholic.—In the course of an address at the opening of a bazaar in aid of the new church of St. Thomas of Canterbury, Manchester, recently, the Rev. Father Bernard Vaughan said that such a function did good because it brought people together. What was wanted was social life, and that people should stand upon the broad platform of this world, and not be always seeking to mount a step higher and pass with a mere glance and a nod at the people on the rung of the ladder below. A bazaar brought out the virtues of patience and peace, as well as generosity and courage, and those were all useful weapons in the warfare of life. The object of that bazaar was one which appealed to every citizen of Manchester. This was a great Christian community, and a Christian community could only exist so long as it lived on Christian principles. Christian principles were to be instilled in Christian schools. If they did not give a Christian education they could not expect to develop the Christian man. He might be called Christian, but a man was not what he was called, but what he was and what he did. As Catholics they needed a Christian education which was Catholic right down to the boots. There was nothing worse for the community than a Catholic who was only 'half-baked.' No man was more dangerous in society than the Catholic who was not living up to his Catholic principles. They wanted to saturate the children who belonged to their faith with Catholic principles so that they might be soaked with them as a sponge was soaked with sea-water. They wanted men not only to be called Catholics but to stand square before the four winds of heaven, professing and showing their Catholicity and being a good advertisement of Catholicity. They had had their churches in back streets and their homes in back alleys long enough, and unless they stood up and played the Christian man what was the use of their liberty now that the fetters had been struck off and if Catholics were willing to remain in the back? The right place for the Catholic Church was the front. They should get into social life and try their best to guide it.

Presentation to a Canon of Salford Cathedral.—Canon Corbishley, of the Cathedral, Salford, was presented by his friends with £260 on the occasion of his silver jubilee.

Death of a Redemptorist.—The Rev. Claude Neville Oddie, C.S.S.R., son of the late Mr. Henry H. Oddie, of Colney House, St. Albans, died on September 28, at the Redemptorist Monastery, Bishop Eton, near Liverpool. He was born on October 16, 1860. His parents were Protestants, but his mother became a Catholic in his early youth, and when he was about 16 he was received into the Church. He was sent to Harrow School and then to the Jesuit College, Beaumont. He thought of becoming a Jesuit and entered their novitiate, but left and then applied to the Redemptorists for reception. He went to Bishop Eton in 1883, and was professed on November 1, 1884. After finishing his studies at St. Joseph's, Teignmouth—the house of studies of the Congregation—he was ordained on October 28, 1889, and was then sent to Bishop Eton and put on the missionary staff. His health had been very bad for some years.

FRANCE.—A Cork Lady Received as Postulant.—Amongst a number of postulants recently received into the Order of Ursulines de Jesus at the Convent Chavagnes en Palliersli, France, was a Cork young lady, Miss Mary Bridget Moloney, in religion Sister Francis Xavier. Miss Moloney is the third daughter of Mr. David Moloney, late of Cregg, Fermoy.

ITALY.—Don Perosi's New Oratorio.—The production of Don Lorenzo Perosi's new oratorio, 'The Birth of the Redeemer,' at Como seems to have been an immense success.

ROME.—The Vatican and the Transvaal Crisis.—The English papers lie so freely about the views of the Vatican (says the Rome correspondent of the *Weekly Register*) that it is hardly worth while to refer to the astounding things which have lately been published in London as to the opinions of the *Curia* reflected in the *Osservatore Roman* concerning the Transvaal crisis. In case, however, anybody should think that there is any doubt about the facts as to the Vatican position, I think it right that I should say

that that position (and also the expression of it, by the way in the *Osservatore*) has from the first been very well informed and impartial, and that the comments of the Roman organ on the situation in its developments have been much more sensible than those of most other Continental papers. As for the Vatican seeking or seeing any advantage to Catholicism out of a South African War, the thing is absolutely preposterous.

An International Congress of Workmen.—His Holiness Leo XIII. has decided to hold in Rome next year an International Congress of Workmen.

RUSSIA.—The Czar and the Holy Father.—It is reported from St. Petersburg that M. Czarikow has been appointed to present to His Holiness Leo XIII. a rich gift on the part of the Tsar. This act of goodwill on the part of the Russian Emperor is a recognition of the very important moral assistance rendered by the Pope to the cause of peace, treated of in the late Conference at The Hague. The young Sovereign of Russia thus publicly recognises the tendency towards the maintenance of peace among the nations which has distinguished the Supreme Pontiff. The fact that the Government of Italy regarded the presence of a Papal representative at the Peace Conference as a threat to the national existence is sufficient to show how little secure it feels of its possession.

SCOTLAND.—Withdrawing a Grant.—At a recent meeting of the Aberdeen County Council, the annual contribution to Nazareth House was withdrawn by seven votes to five, an action which has caused considerable surprise in the city. As a protest, several subscriptions have been received by the Sisters, some from Protestant sympathisers. The grant had been regularly given for several years past.

Building a Presbytery.—The corner-stone of a new presbytery was laid at Blackwood recently by Mrs. Hope-Vere, and blessed by Father Tippet, O.S.B., the pastor. Mrs. Hope-Vere expressed her thanks for the honour done her in being asked to lay the stone of this long-desired building. Many years ago, as a foreigner and a Catholic, she came there with a certain regret at leaving her own country and Catholic surroundings, and it was indeed a joy to find in Scotland so near to her a church so worthy of their devotions. Father Tippet asked permission to lay upon the stone, as the first contribution, the hard-earned offerings of the navvies employed at Logan Water Works. Mrs. Hope-Vere, Major and Mrs. Lancaster, and other members of the congregation, had generously swelled the building fund, thus nobly started, to a very handsome sum. A vote of thanks was tendered to Mrs. Hope-Vere for her kind performance of the ceremony.

Memorial to a Priest.—The Rev. James J. Dawson, Bishop's House, Oban, secretary to the committee having in charge the erection in Pennyfuir, of a memorial to the late Father McColl, says that over £60 have been received, and the list of subscribers is representative of all classes and denominations. Of the many designs submitted to the committee, one of Messrs D. and A. Davidson, Inverness, has been selected. It is a reproduction of the famous St. Martin's Cross, in Iona, and it is to be nine feet in height, and with full Celtic ornamentation. The work is in hand, but it will be some months yet before it will be completed.

UNITED STATES.—A New Charitable Institution.—I paid a visit recently to the 'House of the Women of Calvary,' an institution established not long ago in New York (writes the correspondent of the *New Era*) to aid indigent women suffering from cancer. Lyons was the first city to start this worthy charity, when, in the year 1842, Madame Gaudier founded a home to relieve poor cancer patients who, having been pronounced incurable at the hospitals, were turned on the streets to die. A singular feature of the work of the Women of Calvary is that the women are not Religious, but women of the world, who, having been left widows, renounce all to minister to the wants of the cancer patients. It is a well-known fact that within the last ten years cancer has increased with startling rapidity. Statistics show that 30,000 die every year by the torturing disease, and the cases are almost invariably women. Therefore the House of Calvary is not only a deserving charity, but one that has become an absolute necessity.

A Commission on Church Music.—Archbishop Elder has appointed a commission of competent experts to judge the merits of musical compositions patronised by Catholic choir masters in the diocese of Cincinnati. The commission is expected to properly list the ecclesiastical music approved for use within the Archbishop's jurisdiction.

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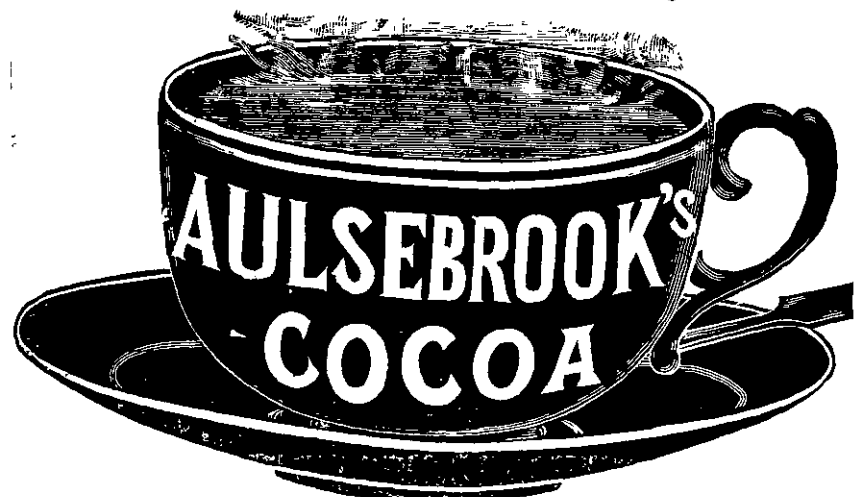
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GUANOS—Chesterfield and Surprise Island and Green Island Guanoses, at prices ranging from £3 5s to £3 17s 6d per ton (sacks in) on trucks Dunedin.

SEEDS—Our Stock of Grass and Clover Seeds have been carefully selected, and Farmers may rely on securing Sound, Genuine, Reliable Seeds, at the very Lowest Prices.

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We supply the Dunedin and Wellington Hospitals, the Union Company's entire fleet, and Bellamy's with our Pure Mineral Water. Specially-made Soda Water for Invalids. For Permit to visit Spring apply Dunedin Office

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A wonderful and extraordinary combination of concentrated medicine. The Victories of Science—Electric Telegraphs, Steam and Printing—revolutionised the whole system of the globe, and made mankind wiser and better. So, although there are countless Pills used for the disease, and claiming much as to their merit, the remarkable discovery of Dr. Haydock has eclipsed them all, and has founded a

New Medical System.

The Doctors, whose vast doses of four or five pills, enfeeble the stomach and paralyse the bowels, must give way to the man who restores health and appetite with one or two of his extraordinary Vegetable Pills. One or two of DR. HAYDOCK'S NEW LIVER PILLS suffice to place the stomach in perfect order, creates an appetite, and renders the spirit light and buoyant. If the Liver is affected its functions are restored, and if the Nervous System is enfeebled, it is invigorated and sustained.

Symptoms of Biliousness.

1. The patient complains of a fullness of the stomach.
2. Distension of the bowels by wind.
3. Heartburn.
4. A feeling of weariness, sleepiness after meals.
5. A bad taste in the mouth, and furred tongue.
6. Constipation, with an occasional diarrhoea.
7. Headache in front of head.
8. Depression of spirits and great lassitude.

All of the above symptoms go to show functional derangement of the Liver; and now comes the great importance of any error made as to the condition of the patient. He should immediately provide himself with a LIVER STIMULANT, the most common form of which is a Pill. Daily experience shows that this, when the Pill is compounded properly, is the readiest mode of inciting and promoting the action of the Liver, and can be always relied on. I have devoted many years of my life in compounding a Pill that will act readily and systematically as a Bilious Remedy. I do not believe in great purgatives, and therefore have made a Pill, one of which is an active and thorough dose. I have called it

Haydock's New Liver Pill.

They are the true grains and essence of health, and the greatest blessing that Science has given to the world.

For Nervous Prostration, Weakness, General Lassitude, Want of Appetite and Sick Headache, Dr. Haydock's New Liver Pills will be found an Effectual Remedy.

Each vial contains Twenty Pills. Price Twenty-five Cents. For sale by all Druggists.

Any sceptic can have a vial of Pills SENT HIM FREE on receipt of his name and address, for a trial.

Send a postal card for copy of pamphlet—'THE LIVER AND ITS MYSTERY.' It furnishes valuable information to all.

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CAUTION!—Druggists are desired to notice that the name of J. H. Francia, sole agent, is written across each dozen packages of Haydock's Liver Pills. All without this are counterfeits.

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MALTSTERS AND BREWERS,

CITY BREWERY, DUNEDIN.



THAT MOST TEAS LACK THAT RICHNESS, STRENGTH, AND FLAVOUR THAT CHARACTERISES THE HIGH CLASS ARTICLE?

Try "**KUKOS**" Tea, which POSSESSES all these qualities

Your Grocer keeps it, or will procure it for you.

WRIGGLESWORTH AND BINNS,

PHOTOGRAPHERS

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR,

CHRISTCHURCH, WELLINGTON, AND DUNEDIN.

LOFT AND CO.,

BOOT MANUFACTURERS AND IMPORTERS,
9 ROYAL ARCADE, DUNEDIN.

'Where do you get your Boots and Shoes?' You see they understand their trade

Said Mrs. Smith one day,
Unto her neighbour Mrs. Jones,
Just in a friendly way,

And buy for ready cash
Just nothing but the best of goods,
And never worthless trash.

They last as long again as mine,
And always look so neat;
They seem to fit you like a glove,
So nice they suit your feet."

I used to buy from other shops
But found it did not pay;
The soles too quickly did wear out,
Or else the tops gave way."

I always buy from Loft and Co.,
Mrs. Jones did then reply.
The reason that I buy from them
I now will tell you why.

So if you want good Boots and Shoes,
That give good honest wear,
Just go direct to Loft and Co.
And you will get them there

TRY OUR GUM BOOTS, 21s.

The Largest Equerry in New Zealand.

RINK STABLES,

GLOUCESTER AND ARMAGH STREETS,

CHRISTCHURCH.

We can supply every reasonable enquiry.

CYCLERY.—The latest convenience of the age. Bicycles Stored Patent stall, 3 per day.

THE OTAGO A. AND P. SOCIETY'S SHOW.

THE annual Summer Show of the Otago A. and P. Society was held on Thursday and Friday. The first day was devoted to judging, and the public attendance was confined to those immediately interested in matters pastoral. On the 'People's Day' (Friday) those who were and those who were not directly interested in sheep and cattle, horses and pigs, went out to Tahuna Park in their numbers, so that in the afternoon the attendance was up to the average. The display of agricultural implements and all kinds of 'notions' for the saving of labour was very good, and the various stands devoted to machinery were a source of attraction to country visitors during the afternoon.

As usual Messrs. Morrow, Bassett and Co. had a very representative display. Foremost among their exhibits was the McCormick reaper and binder, which is so generally used in the whole of the Colony, that it is superfluous to say anything about its many excellent points, which have by this time become well known from practical experience to most farmers. The firm had twenty-four exhibits in all, and among these were a patent elastic steel horse collar and the Star mower knife grinder which grinds the knife at both sides at the same time—a great saving of time.

No agricultural show of any importance would be complete without specimens of the fine work turned out by that old-established firm of agricultural implement makers, Messrs. P. and D. Duncan, of Christchurch and Ashburton. Their drills, cultivators, double and single furrow ploughs, etc., have a reputation among the farming community, not alone of New Zealand but of the other colonies, gained by excellence of workmanship and finish that has stood the test of time and competition.

Messrs. Mackerras and Hazlett had a tent wherein were shown samples of Messrs. Fletcher, Humphreys and Co's far-famed Canterbury cider, which has attained a popularity which its merits well deserve.

Messrs. Nimmo and Blair had a fine exhibit of their 'Standard' seeds inside their building, and outside the same firm showed a number of the 'Planet Jr.' implements for garden work, which were greatly admired.

Messrs. Reid and Gray, whose agricultural implements have an Australasian reputation, were well represented with a splendid assortment of their latest improved machinery, consisting of double furrow ploughs, grain drills, and chaff cutters. As agents they exhibited a line of the well-known manufactures of Deering and

Co., of Chicago, which comprised reapers and binders, mowers, hayrakes and knife-grinders. They had a fine display of Rudge-Whitworth and Yellow Fellow bicycles. In addition there was a varied collection of grubbers, scarifiers, rollers and harrows, all of which came in for a good deal of attention from country visitors.

Messrs. Barningham and Co., of Dunedin, had a superior display of cooking ranges, which are noted for their finish and economy in the consumption of fuel. One of these was shown in full working order, and the result was that with a small quantity of coal a very large amount of heat was produced, sufficient to raise to boiling point a large tank of water.

A little implement which attracted more than ordinary interest was a wire strainer called the 'Electric,' shown at work by Messrs. Walsh. The tool is exceedingly useful, and no farmer should be without one. The facility with which the operator tightened a wire, cut and spliced it, and the neatness of the workmanship were the theme of favourable comment.

The exhibit by Messrs. Horden and White, carriage builders, Dunedin, was an excellent testimonial of the high class of work turned out at their factory. A couple of buggies shown in their stand were very fine specimens of workmanship, the trimming and varnishing being all that could be desired by the most fastidious.

The well-known Dunedin seedsmen, Messrs. Howden and Moncrieff were to the fore with a comprehensive collection of useful implements, including a combined cultivator and horsehoe, spray pumps, and netting for fruit trees, besides a lot of other useful and necessary garden requisites.

A list of the polling places in the electoral district of the City of Dunedin is published in our advertising columns by the Returning Officer, Mr. James Taylor.—*.*

The returning officer for the electoral district of Caversham has a notice in another part of this issue giving a list of the polling places in connection with the General Election.—*.*

Meetings of Mr. C. R. Chapman's committees will be held as follows:—Friday, Leith Ward, Great King Street; Monday, ladies committee, Mrs. Chapman's house; Tuesday, final meeting of all committees, at the central rooms, Dowling Street.—*.*

The New Zealand Insurance Company, which claims to be the premier colonial company, has a capital of £1,000,000 with a paid-up capital and reserves of £400,000. The company has a well deserved reputation for dealing in a liberal manner with its clients, and as it is a local institution it deserves a generous support from the public.—*.*

V.



R.

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF CITY OF DUNEDIN.

NOTICE OF POLLING DAY.

In pursuance of 'The Electoral Act, 1893,' and 'The Electoral Act Amendment Act, 1896,' I, JAMES TAYLOR, Returning Officer for the Electoral District of City of Dunedin, do hereby Give Notice that, by virtue of a Writ bearing date the 22nd day of November, 1899, under the hand of the Clerk of Writs, an ELECTION will be held for the RETURN of Three Qualified Persons to serve as MEMBERS for the said District, and that the POLL (if necessary) will be taken at the several Polling Places of the said District on the 6th day of DECEMBER, 1899, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.

And NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that at the same time and place a POLL of the ELECTORS of the said District will be taken, under the provisions of 'The Alcoholic Liquors Sale Control Act, 1893,' and 'The Alcoholic Liquors Sale Control Act Amendment Act, 1895,' as to:

- (1) Whether the number of licenses existing in the district is to continue;
- (2) Whether the number of licenses existing in the district is to be reduced;
- (3) Whether no licenses are to be granted in the district.

The following are the POLLING PLACES for the Electoral District of City of Dunedin:—

The Garrison Hall, Dowling street (principal).
The Public Library, Maciaggan street, Mornington.
The Borough Council Chambers, Mornington.
The Schoolhouse, High street, Dunedin.
The Mission Hall, Walker street, Dunedin.
The Mission Hall, Kaikorai Valley.
The Borough Council Chambers, Roslyn.
The Borough Council Chambers, Maori Hill.
The Drillshe, North Dunedin.
The Schoolhouse, Pine Hill.
The Schoolhouse, North-East Valley.
The Borough Council Chambers, North-East Valley.
The Schoolhouse, Upper Junction, North-East Valley.
McCutcheon's Store, Beach Road, Ravensbourne.
The Mission Hall, Arthur street, Dunedin.
The Schoolhouse, Albany street, Dunedin.
The Schoolhouse, Union street, Dunedin.
The Schoolhouse, George street, Dunedin.
The Normal School, Moray Place, Dunedin.
St. Joseph's Girls' School, Dowling street, Dunedin.

JAMES TAYLOR,
Returning Officer.

Dunedin, 24th November, 1899.

V.



R.

ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF CAVERSHAM.

NOTICE OF POLLING DAY.

In pursuance of 'The Electoral Act, 1893,' and 'The Electoral Act Amendment Acts, 1893 and 1896,' I, THOMAS RIDDELL DODDS, Returning Officer for the Electoral District of Caversham, do hereby Give Notice that, by virtue of a Writ bearing date the 22nd day of November, 1899, under the hand of the Clerk of Writs an ELECTION will be held for the return of One Qualified Person to serve as a MEMBER for the said District, and that the POLL (if necessary) will be taken at the several Polling Places of the said District on the 6th day of DECEMBER, 1899, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 7 p.m.

And NOTICE IS HEREBY FURTHER GIVEN that at the same time and place a POLL of the Electors of the said District will be taken, under the provisions of 'The Alcoholic Liquors Sale Control Act, 1893,' and 'The Alcoholic Liquors Sale Control Act Amendment Act, 1895,' as to:

- (1) Whether the number of licenses existing in the district is to continue;
- (2) Whether the number of licenses existing in the district is to be reduced;
- (3) Whether no licenses are to be granted in the district.

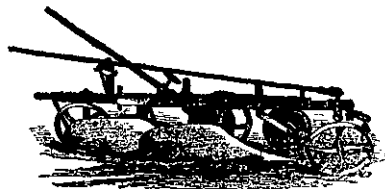
The following are the POLLING PLACES for the Electoral District of Caversham:—

Naumana's Hall, South Dunedin (principal).
Mr. John Robert's House, Grosvenor street, Kensington.
The Post Office, Parkside.
The Oddfellows' Hall, Main South road, Caversham.
The School Gymnasium, St. Clair.
St. Peter's Hall, Alexandra street, Caversham.
The Wesleyan Schoolroom, Duncan Street, South Dunedin.
The Borough Council Chambers, Scott street, St. Kilda.
Mr. James Eager's Shop, Bay View road Musselburgh.
The Sunday School Hall, Anderson's Bay.
Mr. John Bone's House, Shiel Hill.

Dated this 24th day of November, 1899.

THOMAS B. DODDS,
Returning Officer

REID AND GRAY'S



"CHAMPION" DOUBLE-FURROW PLOUGHS.

These Ploughs are so well known that comment is needless.

STEEL AND WOOD FRAME DISC HARROWS made any Size, from 6ft. wide to 12ft. wide. Our STEEL FRAME HARROW is the Best Steel Harrow in New Zealand. OUR NEW COMBINED GRAIN, TURNIP, AND MANURE DRILLS Are another feature in which we excel—Without Doubt the BEST DRILL OBTAINABLE.

Also Makers of
2, 3, & 4 FURROW STUBBLE PLOUGHS, CHAFFCUTTERS & BAGGERS.
WOODEN HILLSIDE PLOUGHS REDUCED IN PRICE.

Agents for DEERING 'IDEAL' HARVESTERS & BINDERS, and
HORSE RAKES, MOWERS, etc.

Oil Engines, Traction Engines, Thrashing Mills. Second-Hand Engines For Sale.
Sole Agents for RUDGE-WHITWORTH & YELLOW FELLOW BICYCLES.
Full Particulars and Catalogues on Application. REID & GRAY.

D. ROBINSON, Surgeon Dentist, Artificial Teeth, full sets, £10.

REMOVED to Corner of George and St Andrew streets (over Irvine and Stevenson's).

GEORGE STREET. The regulation of Children's Teeth a speciality All fees moderate.

NOTE the Address: Dr Robinson, George street (over Irvine and Stevenson's).

SHACKLOCK'S

ORION

COOKING RANGES are the Most Popular, the Most Economical, the Cleanest, the Easiest to Work, the Cheapest.
Single or Double Ovens, High or Low Pressure Boilers.

CASTINGS OF ALL DESCRIPTIONS.

Catalogues from all Ironmongers, or the
Maker and Patentee,
H. E. SHACKLOCK,
PRINCES STREET, DUNEDIN.

ASHBURTON HOTEL
(near Ashburton Bridge).
J. MULLAN PROPRIETOR.

The above hotel affords the travelling public and community every accommodation.

The best Wines, Ales and Spirits kept in stock.

Stabling and Paddock. Terms Moderate.
J. MULLAN

POWLEY AND KEAST
BOTTLETS OF
SPEIGHT AND CO'S PRIZE ALES
AND STOUT.

DECISION OF COMPETENT JUDGES AT
TASMANIAN INTERNATIONAL
EXHIBITION

Including Eight English Competitors:—
Powley and Keast—First Award (Gold Medal) against the world for Bottled Stout.
Powley and Keast—Second Award (Silver Medal) against the world for Bottled Stout.
Powley and Keast—Second Award (Silver Medal) against the world for Bottled Ale.

The Largest and Most Complete Bottling Stores in the Colony.

Order through the Telephone—No. 644.

Note the Address:
POWLEY AND KEAST,
Bottlers, Hope Street, Dunedin.

RAILWAY HOTEL,

MANCHESTER STREET,

CHRISTCHURCH

(One minute from the Railway Station).

MR. WILLIAM JOHNSTON, late of Timaru Refreshment Rooms, has taken over the above favourite house, and offers every comfort to his patrons and friends.

TATTERSALL'S HOTEL,

CASHEL STREET,

CHRISTCHURCH,

Having been taken over by

MR. P. BURKE

(late of Café de Paris),

and thoroughly renovated throughout, he is prepared to pay every attention to the wants of patrons.

GENUINE SEEDS

From a

RELIABLE FIRM.

It is rapidly becoming known throughout N.Z., that
CRAVEN'S SEEDS GROW.
Sound, pure and reliable seeds are
WHAT YOU WANT,

And
WE WANT TO SUPPLY THEM.

Illustrated catalogue and guide,
free to any address.

JAMES CRAVEN AND CO

SEED SPECIALISTS,

2 MANNERS ST.,

WELLINGTON.

SOUTH END MONUMENTAL WORKS.
Established - 1865.

H. PALMER
STONE MASON & SCULPTOR,
PRINCES STREET SOUTH, DUNEDIN

Monuments and Tombstones erected of New Zealand Granite, Scotch Granite, and Italian and American Marble.

Tomb Railing in great variety.

THE TRADE SUPPLIED

Town and Country Orders promptly attended to.

A NOTED HOUSE.

THE SHADES

DOWLING STREET, DUNEDIN.

This old-established and Popular Hotel is most carefully managed by the proprietor,

J. TOOMEY,

Everything of the Best and all Drawn from the Wood.

THE BEST CEMENT EXHIBITED—MAORI BRAND.

Vide Jurors' Report N.Z. Exhibit or The above was given, with TWO FIRST CLASS AWARDS, after most thorough tests by experts, proving our Cement to be equal to the best the world can produce.

Having recently erected extensive works supplied with the most modern plant obtainable which is supervised by a Skilled Cement Maker from England, with confidence we request Engineers, Architects, and others to test our Cement side by side with the best English obtainable.

Milburn Lime at Lowest Rates.

MILBURN LIME AND CEMENT COMPANY (LIMITED), DUNEDIN.

FRANK OAKDEN, Manager.

DOUGLAS HOTEL

Corner Octagon and George streets, Dunedin.

KIERAN D'ARCY, Proprietor.

Mr. D'Arcy wishes to inform his friends and the public that he has taken the above hotel. The building has undergone a thorough renovating from floor to ceiling, and now offers unrivalled accommodation to visitors and travellers. The bedrooms are well and comfortably furnished, and the fittings are all that could be desired.

Travellers called in time for early trains The wines and spirits are of the Best Procurable Brands.

One of Alcock's prize medal Billiard Tables.

Hot, Cold, and Shower Baths.

HUNTER AND CO.,

MONUMENTAL WORKS,

Corner Colombo street and South Belt, CHRISTCHURCH.

Present Stock is now being offered at a Great Reduction on former prices. Tombstones, etc., made to order. Any design.

Concrete Kerbing, Iron Railing, Baptismal Fonts, House Carvings, etc.

SPRING BLOSSOM OINTMENT.

FOUND.—Worth its weight in gold for healing everything it touches. "SPRING BLOSSOM OINTMENT." Sold everywhere.

FOUND.—"Spring Blossom Ointment" cures cracked or sore nipples and broken breasts; 6d and 1s everywhere.

LOST.—Irritating eruptions, sunburns, chapped hands and chilblains by using "Spring Blossom Ointment"; 6d and 1s. Sold everywhere.

FOUND.—"Spring Blossom Ointment" cures sore legs, sore eyes, old wounds; only 6d and 1s everywhere.

LOST.—Burns, bruises, boils, cuts and smarting rashes, by using "Spring Blossom Ointment"; 6d and 1s everywhere.

FOUND.—The great Twin Remedies; used by all in search of health; "SPRING BLOSSOM OINTMENT AND PILLS." Sold by Chemists and Storekeepers.

ONLY 6^d AND 1^s

Storekeepers and Chemists Order from **KEMP THORNE, PROSSER & CO.,** Dunedin, Christchurch, Wellington and Auckland

J. C O U S T O N,

PRINCES STREET, DUNEDIN,

HAS ON SALE LARGE STOCK OF GAS APPLIANCES, ETC.

M'Kay Patent Safe, Acetylene Gas Generators, suitable for Churches, Halls, Hotels, etc. Portable ditto with wind-proof Lamps of 150 candle-power for outside use, for Dredges, etc. These are strong, reliable-tested Machines. Engineer made. Fletcher and Wright's Gas Fires, Boiling Burner, etc. Hawlett's Patent Economisers—a No. 2 burner (giving the light of a No. 5) used with them. Chandeliers, Hall Lamps, Brackets, etc. Two gallons a minute Water Heaters. Horizontal Basin ditto; suitable for doctors, dentists, etc.