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Current Topics

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

POLITICIANS AND THEIR CALLINGS.

OUR return of the professions and trades followed by the members of the new Parliament has received the compliment of being textually copied (without acknowledgment, by the way,) by a goodly section of the

Press of New Zealand. This return goes to show that the two chief industries of the country—the pastoral and the agricultural—find their due proportion of representation in the House as now constituted. The new Parliament has representatives of no fewer than 26 separate trades or callings. Among them are several who in a past day wrought with the miner's pick and rocked the 'cradle.' But oddly enough there is only one member who is now exclusively connected—and he only indirectly—with that great industry which swells our growing exports by close on £2,000,000 a year, and which since 1853 has poured some £70,000,000 of wealth (chiefly in golden ingots) into the lap of Europe. The case was different with the recent Queensland Parliament. There a working miner, Mr. Browne, succeeded in soaring to the dual position of Minister for Mines and Education in the recent Queensland Labour Ministry, which collapsed after a brief and troubled period of existence. The constitution of the remainder of that curious Ministry was, says the Sydney Freeman, 'unique of its kind even in the colonies. Mr. Dawson was the Premier—an enginedriver. The Home Secretary, Mr. Turley, is a wharf labourer. The Treasurer, Mr. Kidston, has deserted a stationer's business for labour politics. The Minister for Lands, Mr. Hardacre, was a clerk before he became a politician. The Minister for Railways, Mr. Fisher, is editor of a labour paper. The seven Ministers all entered Parliament together in 1893, when a party of 17 was elected as a result of the great industrial struggle which had been waged just before.'

CATHOLIC NUNS IN WAR.

It was only when lying wounded and dying upon the battle-field—'his battered casque and plumage gone'—that Marmion found woman to be 'a ministering angel.' A like lesson was painfully learned in like circumstances by many a non-Catholic soldier

regarding the Sisters of Mercy in the Crimean campaign, in the great American Civil War, and more recently still in the brief struggle between the United States and Spain. The present war in South Africa will be the means of tearing up many a deep-rooted prejudice from the minds of non-Catholic soldiers. To learn is often slow. To unlearn is generally hard, especially when it is a question of parting with ingrained and long-standing prejudice. But the battle-field and the military hospital are stern schools where every lesson is learned with pain, if not with agony. But once learned, it is not likely to be soon forgotten. In the Matabele campaign the Dominican Nuns at Buluwayo gave soldier and settler and miner alike a noble evidence of the height and depth of the self-sacrifice and charity of Catholic Sisterhoods. The same is being done in the present war by the Sisters of Nazareth and the Sisters of the Holy Family who are tending and comforting the sick and wounded within the beleaguered lines of Mafeking and Kimberley and Ladysmith. When train after train was bringing packed loads of refugees in open trucks from Johannesburg to places of safety at the Cape or Durban or Lorenzo Marquez, the Sisters of Nazareth remained behind in the half-deserted city to tend the sick in their hospital, and to find food for the seven hundred orphans and for the helpless old people (mostly British subjects) who had none others to stand between them and the pangs of absolute starvation.

About the time that the first shot of the war was fired, Mgr. Gaughran, Vicar-Apostolic of the Orange Free State, wired to the Sisters of Nazareth at Mafeking. He gave them their

choice to remain at their posts and face the music of the Boer bullets or to leave the threatened frontier town for safer quarters farther south. The Salvation Army 'lasses' and others who might have given a helpful hand moved off southwards in the crowded passenger trains to places where bullets do not whistle nor shrapnel shells shriek and explode. But without one exception or one moment of hesitation the Sisters of Nazareth decided to remain. And they are now giving to the British wounded the tender and skilful services which their dark-clad companions within the Transvaal are rendering to the Boers. A Protestant writer in a South African paper says of the beleaguered nurses of Mafeking: 'Whilst the Sisters would very probably be the very last persons in the world to desire any public commendation of their course, it seems only fair that attention should be called to their conduct. In this age of money-getting and place-hunting, such deeds as these confirm our faith in the beauty of self-sacrifice and humanity.' The same Order of Sisters and those of the Holy Family are rendering the same kind services at Kimberley and Ladysmith. At Pietermaritzburg, Durban, Port Elizabeth, and Cape Town their convents, schools, and hospitals are crowded with refugees from the Transvaal and the Orange Free State. In one of its recent issues, the North London Advertiser editorially refers as follows to the good work which is being done by the Sisters of Nazareth in South Africa: 'England must be proud of such brave ladies, and those that slander their religion should go and do likewise instead of bearing false witness against their neighbours.'

In South Africa as in the Crimea and the great American Civil War, it will probably take some time for the ingrained prejudice against the Catholic name and the religious habit to quite melt away. But the thaw has already well set in. Even when the Sisters of Mercy were gratuitously toiling and dying of cold and hunger and overwork and disease at their unpaid post of duty in the Crimea, there were to be found some inglorious varlets—even clergymen—who sat in guilty comfort in their easy chairs in England and in pamphlet and newspaper railed at and ridiculed their admitted devotion to the sick and wounded soldiers of the Queen. The undoubtedly valuable services of Miss Nightingale were made the theme of song and story. Those of the Sisters of Mercy were either passed over in absolute silence or coldly and thanklessly accepted as a sheer matter of course. Miss Nightingale was, however, more generous than either the clergymen or the journalists of her time. Shortly after the close of the war she wrote the following words to the Superior who had been in charge of the Sisters during the course of that sublimely blundering campaign:—

I do not presume to express praise or gratitude to you, Rev. Mother; because it would look as though I thought you had done this work not unto God but unto me. You were far above me in fitness for the general superintendency in worldly talent of administration, and far more in the spiritual qualifications which God values in a superior; my being placed over you was my misfortune, not my fault. What you have done for the work no one can ever say. I do not presume to give you any other tribute but my tears.

In the American Civil War of the sixties the chief glories of the hospital work were by unanimous consent accorded to the Catholic nursing Sisters—the Sisters of Charity, the Sisters of Mercy, and the Sisters of the Holy Cross. At the opening of that long and deadly campaign, two circumstances combined to somewhat hamper the good work done without fee or reward by the Sisters: One was the galling suspicion and dislike of the non-Catholic private soldier; the other was the exasperating obstacles placed in the Sisters' path by army surgeons, army officers, and other war officials who were gifted with strong and well-fed and bulky prejudices against things and persons Catholic—and especially against those strange women in strange uniforms who were known as 'Sisters,' and who were regarded as companies from the monstrous Amazonian regiments of the Man of Sin. The Sisters, however, had no vanity to wound. They had no resentment to repay. So they

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bore it all with smiling and unruffled countenances. Their day came when men swarmed the hospitals stricken with camp-fever, and when the wounded were brought in hundreds or in thousands from the battlefields. No hand was so light, no touch so gentle, no voice so soft, no attendance so devoted and unwearied as those of the Sisters. They soon won their way to every heart. They triumphed alike over official suspicion and the vulgar prejudice of the untaught masses that fought on either side. An American author writes of them: 'As the war progressed, so did the influence of the Sisters, until at length there was scarcely a corner of the country into which a knowledge of their services did not penetrate, and there were but few homes in which their names were not mentioned with respect.' They toiled impartially and with equal charity and zeal for North and South. The Generals of the Army of the Cumberland and the Tennessee besought Archbishop Purcell to send them 'more priests and more Sisters, they were so full of devotion to their duty.' By the rank and file the Sisters soon came to be popularly known as 'angels' and 'angels of mercy.' The famous Sister Anthony was styled 'the ministering angel of the Army of the Tennessee.' She and the other Sisters were granted a universal pass by General Beauregard. This enabled them to go everywhere unquestioned, just like staff officers. Time and again they made use of their opportunities to pass far beyond the lines and return with loads of provisions which kept together the bodies and souls of thousands of Confederate prisoners that were lying in misery and starvation in Charleston.

Eighty Sisters attended the sick and wounded at Richmond. At Gettysburg even the youngest nuns went into the firing line to succour the wounded. Here, and elsewhere, they were brought into direct touch, and at first hand, with the fresh and palpitating horrors of war. What this means for tenderly nurtured and refined women, God alone can tell. We may, perhaps, gain some idea of it from the experience of the famous Belgian religious, Constance Tiechmann. She went out, young and fair-haired, in 1870 to nurse the wounded on the field of Saarbours. When she returned from her task her hair had become white. The charity of the Sisters in the American War overcame everything. When they died from bullet or fever others were ready to take their place and—noble patriots!—to serve their country and their neighbour without pay or reward, frequently—as at the Battle of Gettysburg—furnishing the camp hospitals with provisions and comforts purchased at their own expense. The prejudice against the Sisters that had marked the early part of the campaign soon melted away. Its place was taken by unbounded admiration, both on the part of the officers and of the rank and file. Two wealthy Protestants who had served through the war purchased the great United States Maine Hospital at Cincinnati for £14,000—a fraction of its original cost—and presented it to Sister Anthony. When the mighty struggle was over, the Sisters had no more whole-hearted champions than the soldiers of both armies. For instance, a non-Catholic officer who was wounded near Pensacola was nursed back to strength again by the Sisters of Mercy. 'Look here,' said he to a fellow-sufferer before he left, 'I was always an enemy to the Catholic Church. I was led to believe by my preachers that these Sisters—both nuns and priests—were all bad. But when I get out of this, I'll be everlastingly durned if I don't knock the first man head over heels who dares to say a word against the Sisters in my presence.'

The wounded officer of the Pensacola hospital is but one instance out of many that might be cited to show how the magnificent services of the Sisters during the war broke down the barriers of prejudice against the Catholic Church. We will content ourselves with quoting the words of the distinguished lawyer, politician, and soldier, General Randall Lee Gibson. He passed away in 1892. Some time before his death he spoke as follows in the course of a public address:—

When I was a young man, before the great struggle between the North and South, I was somewhat prejudiced against the Catholic Church. . . . Well, the cry came, 'To Arms!' and I presume it is hardly necessary for me to tell an Ohio audience that I had the honour of commanding an Ohio regiment—the 19th Volunteers. After a day's engagement, in which our forces were badly beaten, I looked out from headquarters—which were located on an eminence—up in the scene of the conflict; and through the field-glass I could see black-robed figures going around among the wounded and dying soldiers. I immediately ordered my aide-de-camp to go down and see who those black-robed figures were, and report as soon as possible to me. He hastily returned, almost breathless, and exclaimed: 'General, those figures are Sisters of Charity, who are ministering to the wounded and dying soldiers.' . . . I was amazed, and concluded to make a personal investigation. I went down into the scene of the great conflict, accompanied by some of my staff officers. I didn't have to go far before coming across a black-robed figure that was cold in death. This heroine of heroines died at her post. She was not regularly mustered into the service, she received no pecuniary compensation; but oh, what a reward will be hers! Her companions were still engaged in succouring the wounded and dying. When I saw this with my

own eyes on that eventful day, I returned thanks on bended knees to the Omnipotent God for opening my eyes to the sublime grandeur of the Roman Catholic Church.

The Catholic Church in America did all in her power to calm the public mind in 1860 and 1861 and to prevent the horrors of a civil war—and this at a time when, as a New York Protestant barrister said, the non-Catholic pulpits were furiously harping on their three burning themes, Popery, Slavery, War. She failed. But when the mighty struggle broke out, she did her duty right nobly to the victims of the war. A lawyer from Louisiana who had tasted the bitterness of prison life during the war, said: 'Looking back upon the war, I see that the Protestants of the North were charitable to their own side, and that the Protestants of the South were very charitable to their side; but the Catholics were the only body of Christians who practised charity for its own sake, irrespective of politics, and who did so even when it was unpopular, if not dangerous for them to do so.' One result of the single-minded charity and patient kindness of the Sisters was the conversion of thousands of the rank and file and many of the officers of both armies during the course of the war.

LORD WOLSELEY has his notions. And one of them is this: that it is the destiny of THE CELT IN THE FIGHTING Irishmen to rule the whole British Empire. So much he said in the course of an interview with Mr. Stead in August, 1890. 'Not long ago,' said he, 'almost every Colonial Governor was an Irishman. Of the Viceroy of India, Lord Mayo, Lord Dufferin, Lord Lansdowne, and Sir Hercules Robinson were all Irishmen.' So were the holders of the greatest names in the later military history of the Empire. Lord Wolseley himself, the Commander-in-Chief of the forces, is a Dublin man. So probably was the mighty modern Thor of the Thunder Hammer, the Duke of Wellington, although some claim Dangan Castle in the County of Meath as his birth-place. That other mighty fighter, Sir Charles James Napier, was a native of Antrim. So is General White, who is holding Ladysmith against the beleaguering forces of the Boer army. Sir Eyre Coote—so distinguished for his services in India—was a Limerick 'boy.' Field-Marshal Lord Roberts is from 'magnificent Tipperary.' So is Major-General Sir William Francis Butler. General Clery is said to be a native of West Cork, and, if we mistake not, Lord Kitchener of Khartoum hails from the 'Kingdom of Kerry.' From the days of the Peninsula to the Malakand and the Afridi and the latest Soudan campaigns it seems to be the accepted tradition of the British army that most of the tough fighting falls to the share of the Irish and Scottish regiments. The present campaign in South Africa forms, thus far, no exception to the rule. It is not, however, so generally known that Ireland, in proportion to her population, not alone supplies an enormous proportion of the military talent of the British army, but that she also (still in proportion to her population) furnishes the regular army—that is, the fighting line—with 20 per cent. more troops than England and with 50 per cent. more than 'Bonnie Scotland.' Such, in effect, are the figures furnished in Mulhall's *Dictionary of Statistics* for the current year. 'Compared with population,' says he, 'we find that England produces five soldiers per thousand inhabitants, Scotland four, and Ireland six.' Other things being equal, we may legitimately conclude that the Green Isle suffers proportionately in good Milesian blood when the cannons roar and the rifle-fire sputters and crackles over the field of battle. The number of Irish-born soldiers in the British army in 1896 was 25,000 out of a total white force of 209,000. Great Britain has learned by a long and happy experience to lean with easy confidence on the dash and élan and unfailing gallantry of the Irish and the Scottish Celt.

A FAREWELL
PROFESSION
OF FAITH.

THERE is a pathos in nearly all last things—the last glimpse at home, the last word of the dying, the last look at the face of the dead. And so was there, too, a singular pathos in the farewell sermon preached a few weeks ago by the Rev. Dr. Lee in the Anglican Church of All Saints, Lambeth (London), after a ministry of three-and-thirty years. Dr. Lee was notable both as a preacher and writer. But his name is, perhaps, best known in England through his efforts in the direction of the Corporate Reunion of Anglicanism with the centre of Catholic life, the Church of Rome. His farewell utterance included a profession of faith in many of her distinctive doctrines. Thus, 'the Incarnation,' said he, 'involved the stainless Conception of the Blessed Mother of God, which was not set forth in the Thirty-nine Articles, nor explicitly in the Creed, though it was in substance; and it was to be regretted that that doctrine was not more faithfully considered. The propriety of prayers for the dead might likewise be deduced from the words of his text. . . . He would advise the constant repetition of "Hail Mary, full of grace, blessed art thou among women," the making the sign of the Cross, and the use by all classes of grace at meals, as a

recognition of God's overruling Providence. In a pathetic peroration (says the *New Era*) Dr. Lee bade his friends farewell, thanked all who had helped him, forgave all who had opposed him, and urged all to see the clear issue at stake—not to be in the foggy state of many preachers whose sermons found favour in newspapers, but the aim of which it required a man of great intellect to understand—and so to live and walk here that they might join the great company of the Redeemed above.

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The Rev. Father Mathew, the chaplain of the Royal Irish Fusiliers, who were cut up and then captured at Nicholson's Nek, has a brother in Melbourne.

Mr. W. F. Monypenny, late editor of the *Johannesburg Star*, and the *Times* correspondent in Johannesburg, is now a member of the Imperial Light Horse, and fought gallantly with his regiment at Elandslaagte. He also holds the Queen's commission, being a lieutenant in the 16th Volunteer Battalion of the Rifle Brigade (London Irish).

AN HONEST BULLET.

We congratulate Mr. Wyndham and Mr. Dillon (says the *Daily Chronicle*) on the exchange of inquiries in the House of Commons, which showed that we are employing in the Transvaal war what Mr. Dillon calls an 'honest bullet.' Not only have we done away with the Dum Dum, but we have cancelled all orders for Mark IV. bullets, which were, we believe, at first sent to South Africa. We are using, in point of fact, only bullets which have nothing in the shape of a point so constructed as to expand on impact and inflict frightful, shattering wounds on such organs as the heart and intestines. The bullet now being used is completely covered at the point, and Mr. Dillon showed in the lobby the specimen which Mr. Wyndham handed him as a proof of the slight advance in humanity in warfare which the Hague Conference has brought about.

THE MAUSER RIFLE.

The Mauser rifle, which the Boers carry, was thoroughly tested in the recent fighting in Cuba. It is, of course, a mercurial weapon. General Maceo had been wounded nineteen times by Mausers before the fatal shot in Pinar del Rio, and every ragged Cuban private exhibits one or more wounds inflicted by the tiny bullet without serious effect. At regular ranges the nickel projectile makes a clean perforation, passing through bone without splintering, and taking no cloth or foreign substance into the wound. If the nickel coating should be damaged, however, or the velocity is reduced by extreme range or ricochet, the wound is more complicated than those inflicted by the Dum-Dum.

THE TRANSVAAL OUTPUT OF GOLD FOR SEPTEMBER.

According to the *Daily Chronicle* the Transvaal output of gold for September was 426,556oz. That for August was 482,000oz, being the largest yet recorded. The drop in September was 55,522oz, which was quite an insignificant diminution when we remember the excitement in Johannesburg, the flight of the Cornish miners, and general exodus of labour. Actually the past month's output is upwards of 18,000oz bigger than that for September, 1898. We wonder when the monthly return will be 400,000oz again.

THE ENGLISH QUAKERS AND THE WAR.

The Society of Friends, or commonly known as the Quakers, in Lancashire and Cheshire, their stronghold in England, have unanimously passed a resolution at a representative meeting, declaring that they could find no justification for the present war in South Africa, nor for the argument that it would benefit the natives. War, they say, is a wrong method of trying to achieve human well-being, and this view they would still hold, even if Britain's treatment of South African natives had been more righteous than they fear has been the case.

MAJOR-GENERAL KELLY-KENNY, C.B.

Lord Roberts and Major-general Thomas Kelly-Kenny have left England for South Africa. A Home exchange says:—The authorities at the War Office have decided that Major-general Kelly-Kenny, C.B., at present holding the position of Inspector-general of auxiliary forces and recruiting on the head-quarters staff, shall command the 6th Division of the South Army Corps, which is about to proceed to South Africa to reinforce the troops engaged in the Boer War. Major-General Kelly-Kenny, C.B., is an Irishman, 59 years of age, and entered the army as ensign in the 2nd Foot in 1858, the regiment being then stationed at the Cape of Good Hope. He has seen active service in China, Abyssinia, and India. He is a zealous Catholic, and in appearance is tall, with a fresh complexion, thoroughly British-looking. He is a bachelor, and a Justice of the Peace for his native County of Clare.

THE LADYSMITH DISASTER.

The manliness and chivalry of Sir George White (says the *Catholic Times*) in declaring that he alone bore the responsibility for the plan in the execution of which the Ladysmith disaster occurred are acknowledged by the *Times*, the *Daily Chronicle*, the *Daily News*, and all the morning papers. An interesting tribute to Sir George was paid by Lord Ripon in the course of a speech a few days ago. 'To himself,' he said, 'the war in Natal had a peculiar and all-absorbing interest, because that gallant and accomplished soldier, Sir George White, was a dear friend of his, and was also his military secretary during some portion of the time he was Viceroy of India. He knew him well. He was the bravest of the brave, and he was

sure that the honour and interest of the British Empire was safe in his hands. But it was not only as a military hero that they must regard him with admiration, for had he not shown that he had the generous spirit and the just and humane appreciation of his foe which characterised the British soldier and British gentleman.'

THE BRAVE SISTERS OF NAZARETH.

The last news cabled from Johannesburg and Kimberley was (says the *Irish Weekly*, November 4) 'All safe here.' The Sisters of Nazareth had the option to remain or return to England. Without fear and without exception, they all preferred to remain at their post. They then received notice to render all assistance possible to the British soldiers, and to tend the wounded on both sides. Since their residence in South Africa they have been treated with kindness and consideration by the Boers, who have been generous to the Institute. 'Terrible,' wrote the Sisters, 'as it was to be in the midst of the war, they preferred to be there than out of it, because of the orphans and old people under their care. In Johannesburg and Kimberley alone they have 700 orphans, as well as many old men and women, all British subjects. Just before communications were cut off with Kimberley the Superior telegraphed for the Sisters who were out to return, and they had only just time to catch the last train from outlying districts. They had to wait a day and a night at the station, and when they got a train it was only with standing room. In this way they travelled for two nights and one day. They saw several poor women crushed to death in trying to get to the train. The houses of the Sisters at Durban, Port Elizabeth, and Capetown are crowded with refugees.

THE DUBLIN FUSILIERS AT DUNDEE.

The more one hears of Dundee (writes the war correspondent of the *Sydney Morning Herald*), the more fully he realises the gallant part played by the Dublin Fusiliers. They went into action at short notice, some of them having gone out for running exercise a few minutes before the fight began. As they lay in the shelter of the plantation the general said: 'That hill must be taken.' 'The Fusiliers will do it, sir,' said Captain Connors, and the Fusiliers did it grandly. A little knot of men got racing together for first place with the Royal Irish ahead of the main line, and had they lived to reach the ridge there would have been Victoria Crosses for some of the Irish Fusiliers, but all save one man, who owed his life perhaps to the fact that he missed his foothold and fell, died near the summit. Captain Connors fell as he was leading his men up the slope, which was so sharp that they had at times to hold on to the grass tussocks. 'Go on, boys,' he said; 'I'll see you to-morrow'—and he will see them perhaps on that to-morrow when the Dublins answer the bugle call for the last parade, for the brave Irish captain died with a bullet through his body on the iron-sown slope of Tarana Hill. Although Glencoe has got so fair a start, and will be hard to shift, in the end this fight will be officially known as the battle of Dundee, since it was fought close to the town of Dundee, and really some miles distant from the military camp at Glencoe.

The majority of men who have, so far, been killed, wounded, or taken prisoners in the war with the Boers (says the *Catholic Times* of November 4) are Irish Catholics. Father Matthews, the chaplain, was amongst the officers captured at Ladysmith on Monday. He showed remarkable fearlessness during the terrible fray. The Gloucester regiment has also lost a large number. As a sign of recognition of their valour at Dundee the Irish Fusiliers have received from the War Office permission to wear a green plume. They may now be allowed to wear the shamrock on St. Patrick's Day.

SPOILING FOR A FIGHT.

At the Bow Police Court, London, in the early part of November, William Shanahan, a smart, well-dressed young fellow, was charged on his own confession with being a deserter from the 2nd Battalion Royal Munster Fusiliers. The prisoner deserted more than two years ago, and went to America. Since then he had been doing well, but on learning that men were wanted for active service he threw up his employment and surrendered himself at Bow street, explaining that he wished to rejoin the colours. Mr. Marsham ordered the prisoner to be handed over to a military escort, who will take him back to his old regiment.

THE ONLY CATHOLIC GENERAL.

Sir Francis Clery, the only Catholic General who has gone to the front, was born in Ireland, and educated under the Jesuit Fathers at Clongowes. From 1872 to 1875 he was professor of tactics at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. He served in the Zulu war and in Egypt, where he was chief of the staff from 1886 to 1888. He was commandant of the staff college from 1888 to 1893, and commanded a brigade at Aldershot in 1895. He was recently created a K.C.B. He has been deputy Adjutant-General to the forces since 1896.

A notice with regard to the train arrangements for the New Year Holidays appears in our advertising columns. On Saturday, December 30, an excursion train will leave Dunedin for Christchurch at 10.35 p.m., arriving at its destination at 8.50 next morning. A special train will leave Dunedin at 11.20 p.m. on December 30 for Invercargill. An excursion train will leave Christchurch for Dunedin at 10.40 p.m. on December 30, arriving at its destination at 9 o'clock next morning. A special train will leave Invercargill also on the night of the 30th arriving in Dunedin early on Sunday morning. The attention of the travelling public and holiday makers is directed to the notice with regard to train arrangements for the Caledonian Sports at Oamaru and races at Waikouaiti on January 1, also sports at Middlemarch, Clinton, and Invercargill. There is also a special notice with regard to the train arrangements for the Caledonian Sports at Oamaru, and the sports at Waitati, and the Bluff regatta on January 2.—* *

CARDINAL MORAN ON THE MARIST ORDER.

His Eminence Cardinal Moran laid the foundation-stone of extensive additions to the church dedicated to the Blessed Peter Chanel, at Hunter's Hill, Sydney, on December 3. The church is in charge of the Marist Order, and in the course of his address the Cardinal-Archbishop paid a well-deserved tribute to the work of the French missionaries, especially to those of the Society of Mary. His Eminence said:—In pagan lands no missionaries could compare in apostolic work with the French priests. As an evidence of this he would mention the opinion of a traveller through Burmah who had written an article which he (the Cardinal) was reading the other day. This writer, who was exploring regions comparatively little known, afterwards paid a visit to the Lieutenant-Governor of Rangoon, and in course of conversation the religious labours of French and English missionaries were mentioned. The Lieutenant-Governor declared that if the English missionaries only had the true apostolic spirit as did the missionaries of France they

WOULD CONVERT THE WHOLE WORLD.

He (the Lieutenant-Governor) looked upon this spirit which the French missionaries possessed as tending in a remarkable degree towards the spread of the blessings of Redemption to those that knew not our blessed Lord. The Governor did not desire to detract from the work of the English Protestant missionaries, but regretted that they found it necessary to compound their spiritual labours with trade, admitting at the same time that this to a great extent was unavoidable as the English missionary usually had a wife and family, and through the conflicting interests found it almost impossible to separate religion from commerce. The French missionaries, on the other hand, had no such ties, but laboured solely through true devotion to the Church.

Another instance of the remarkable success attending the efforts of the missionary priests of France was to be found in Africa, where all our thoughts are turned to-day. Years ago but little was known of the remote interior; to-day, however, it was nearly all explored. Here, although a tribute of praise must be given to such heroic travellers as Livingstone and Stanley, who went forward impelled by the spirit of exploration, they must give the highest tribute to the devoted French missionaries who followed in their steps spreading the blessings of religion. It was a singular thing to reflect that at one time a million lives were sacrificed yearly in the slave trade in Africa, whilst Europe looked on and could devise no means to cope with the flagrant inhumanity. But Cardinal Lavigerie

WENT ROUND ALL THE COURTS

of Europe pleading the cause of the slaves, and through his efforts a great congress was held in Belgium, when all the powers united to suppress the slave trade everywhere. On behalf of the slaves Cardinal Lavigerie went from capital to capital, from city to city, and nowhere was he received with more enthusiasm than in the great manufacturing centres of England, like Manchester and Birmingham. They recognised his efforts and gave him their assistance, and if the slave trade has been rooted out they owed it to Cardinal Lavigerie. These thoughts were recalled by the Blessed Peter Chanel, who laboured in the Pacific, and he hoped that the spirit of Peter Chanel would long remain with the Marist Fathers, the devoted missionaries they rejoiced to have among them. He had only one fault to find with the Marist Fathers—there was not enough of them.

ARCHDIOCESE OF MELBOURNE.

WHAT THE CATHOLICS ARE DOING FOR PRIMARY EDUCATION.

In presenting his report on the primary schools of the Archdiocese of Melbourne the Inspector says:—One hundred and thirteen primary schools (with an attendance of 19,209 pupils) are in operation. There are also 23 Colleges and High Schools, which had during the year an attendance of 2209 pupils. Of the 21,418 children who attend the schools directly under the control of the Catholic Church 1075 are non-Catholics. During the year I have examined and awarded percentages to 107 primary schools. Since the issue of the last report, four new school buildings were erected. In the primary schools there are 422 teachers (179 religious and 243 seculars) whose salaries for the year amounted to £17,559.

The total expenditure on new buildings, repairs, appliances, and maintenance for the year ending September 30, 1899, was £23,582. The average annual expenditure for the last eight years was £21,787. Large as is the sum spent on new buildings and repairs, there is still demand for further expenditure. Some schools require greater accommodation, others require more maps, furniture, painting, or general overhauling. In the vast majority of cases a generous people, led by their pastors, have built and admirably equipped their parochial schools. Sufficient thanks cannot be given by all lovers of Christian education to the pastors and people who have generously subscribed towards the erection, equipment, and maintenance of the very many school buildings which are found in nearly every centre of Catholic population.

Any honour which men may give to the founders and benefactors of Catholic schools can afford but trifling gratification in comparison with the immense satisfaction they must experience from the reflection that, at least in this one most important matter, they are largely contributing towards the best interests of this young and progressive country.

It is simply inexplicable that our Legislature, which is founded on the British model, and which looks to England for light and leading, should continue to refuse to the Catholic schools a fair

proportion of the Educational Grant. In Great Britain 14,000 denominational schools are liberally supported by the State. In Ireland the National system of education is, in three out of the four provinces, practically undenominational. But here, where there is much boasting of the progress and enlightened liberality of the colonies, no sense of shame deters non-Catholics from utilising the money of Catholics for the education of their children, and no sense of wrong done to others inspires them as a body to denounce the injustice, and to advocate the just claims of Catholics.

The secondary schools have this year fully maintained the successes of former years. Sixty pupils passed (many of them with honours) the matriculation of the Melbourne University; four matriculated in music; one obtained a gold medal; three hundred and forty-eight were successful in winning other distinctions, such as passes of the Royal Academy, London, in practical and theoretical music; passes in the Public Service, etc., etc. Besides the twelve exhibitions of £5 each, presented by his Grace, seven resident scholarships for girls have been given by the Convent of the Faithful Companions, Richmond; the Convent of Mercy, Nicholson street, Fitzroy; the Presentation Convent, Windsor; the Presentation Convent, Elsternwick; the Convent of Mercy, Geelong; the Convent of Mercy, Kyneeton; and the Convent of Mercy, Mansfield. Three non-resident scholarships for boys have been given by the Jesuit Fathers; two of them (tenable for three years) are the gift of St. Francis Xavier's College, Kew; and one (tenable for one year) the gift of St. Patrick's College, East Melbourne.

AMONG THE BOOKS.

NEW BOOK BY CARDINAL MORAN.

The Catholic Truth Society has sent us a new and valuable historic work from the pen of the Cardinal Archbishop of Sydney. Its scope is fully indicated in its title: *The Catholics of Ireland Under the Penal Laws in the Eighteenth Century* (pp. 218, demy 8vo., 2s 6d). As the eminent and learned author says in his brief preface, 'the subject-matter cannot fail to commend the little volume to those readers who rejoice in the triumphs of religion. Never has a whole nation suffered more for the Faith than Ireland; and nowhere has fidelity to God and loyalty to the Holy See, amid unparalleled sufferings and national humiliations, achieved more glorious victories or been crowned with happier results. Those victories of the Faith and those grand religious results are a priceless heritage, of which the Irish race at home and abroad is justly proud.' In Cardinal Moran they have found an able and interesting historian, who, within the 200 pages of his book, contrives to pack an amazing amount of information sorted out in fair order and presented to the reader in a style which gives a charm all its own to this new volume of the Catholic Truth Society. In a brief compass the distinguished and scholarly author has done for the eighteenth century what he did for the seventeenth in his well-known *Historical Sketch of the Persecutions Suffered by the Catholics of Ireland under the Rule of Cromwell and the Puritans*.

The book will possess a special interest for all, but especially Irish Catholics. A perusal of its contents will enable the reader to form some idea of the terrible sufferings to which the Irish were subjected, and of the sturdy character of the faith and devotion which could so triumphantly resist the operations of a fierce and savage penal code of which Edmund Burke, himself a Protestant, said that 'it was a complete system, full of coherence and consistency, well digested and composed in all its parts. It was a machine of wise and elaborate contrivance, and as well fitted for the oppression, the impoverishment and degradation of a people, and the debasement in them of human nature itself, as ever proceeded from the perverted ingenuity of man.' The value of the book is enhanced by the author's deadly use of the writings of leading non-Catholic historians, such as Lecky, and by his frequent use of documents preserved in the archives of the Vatican, etc. The interest of the reader is likewise sustained by the wealth of personal details which, so to speak, bring us face to face with concrete examples of the working of the penal code. Instances in point occur constantly—such as the incident of the law regarding the possession of horses of £5 in value by Catholics (p. 22); the dangers, travels, and disguises of bishops and priests; their hiding places in bogs and mountains, etc.; their prison experiences: the celebration of Mass in huts, bogs, garrets, mountains; the priest-hunter and his ways; the story of Father Sheehy (p. 59), and scores of other personal adventure and incident. The Catholic schoolmaster, too, was hunted down in those times as well as the Catholic priest. But, as a set-off to this weary tale of woe, the Cardinal gives many instances (see especially p. 58) in which the hunted *sogarth* was protected from injury by the kindness of Protestants that were more just and compassionate than the laws. The tenth chapter is devoted to a very interesting account of the noble work done by the Irish Colleges of Paris and Rome in training secular clergy for the perilous work of the mission in the Old Land in those trying days. The dawn and progress of toleration are ably traced by Cardinal Moran, and his book—which is procurable from all the booksellers advertising in our columns—should find a place in every prize-list in our schools and on the book-shelf of every Catholic home.

NEW EDITION OF BOOK BY EDITOR OF THE N.Z. TABLET.

The Catholic Truth Society has forwarded us copies of a new edition of *The Orange Society*, by Rev. H. W. Cleary, editor of the N.Z. TABLET. This new edition (the twelfth, and not the eleventh as stated in *Catholic Book Notes* for October) is a handsome cloth-bound volume of pp. xvi+459 and is issued in its new dress at 2s 6d. *Catholic Book Notes* for October, in the course of a prominent notice of the book, says: 'The eleven (Australian) editions were

issued in the same year (1897), which gives some idea of the interest the book excited in Australia; and we are glad to announce that it is now available for use among ourselves. . . It is a valuable historical study, beginning with the foundation of the Society in Ireland in 1795, and tracing its operations down to the present day. A valuable appendix treats of the position of Catholics in the North of Ireland, and contrasts it with that accorded to Protestants by the Catholic majority in the South, thus affording a striking example of that "toleration" on which Protestants pride themselves. Father Cleary must have expended an immense amount of time and labour upon this book, for on every page we find references and footnotes which, while they greatly enhance its value, must have added materially to the work of compilation. Moreover, there is an excellent index, by means of which the various points treated of can be readily consulted. The book is a storehouse of facts and a model of its class. In the course of a flattering and extended notice the *New Era* (the International Catholic organ) says: 'The book under review, in which the working of this nefarious system of religious boycotting and persecution is unveiled, introduces the reader into a veritable political chamber of horrors, blood-stained and blood-curdling.'

DIocese of Christchurch.

(From our own correspondent.)

December 22.

The annual retreat for the Sisters of Mercy is being conducted at the Convent, Colombo street, by the Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy, S.M. His Lordship the Bishop was amongst those who occupied seats on the platform at the prize distribution of the Boys' High School held this week.

The Very Rev. Father Ginaty, S.M., of Mount Magdala, has gone on a visit to Melbourne, his place, meanwhile, being taken by the Very Rev. Dean Foley, S.M.

The following pupils of the Sisters of Mercy, Colombo street, passed most successfully at the drawing examination (second grade), in connection with the School of Art, Wellington, held on December 2:—Freehand, Lizzie Joyce, Monica Flood, and Ethel Main.

The general examination of the pupils of the Marist Brothers' School does not take place until mid-winter, but for the benefit of the boys of the Sixth Standard, many of whom are about to leave school, an examination of that class took place the other day. In his report the Inspector (Mr. J. Baldwin) says: 'The class has passed a very satisfactory examination, 11 boys out of 12 examined fully satisfying all the requirements of Standard VI. The behaviour of the boys during the examination was good.'

St. Mary's schoolroom was filled to overflowing on the evening of Friday last to witness the prize distribution and annual entertainment of the pupils. His Lordship the Bishop presided, there being also present all the local and several visiting clergy. The excellent manner in which the children acquitted themselves was very creditable to their painstaking teachers, the Sisters of Mercy. The following was the programme:—Chorus, singing class; violin solo Miss Agnes Nelson; song, Master Cronin; and a drama, 'Dolores,' in which the parts were taken by Misses J. Sweeney, K. Barnard, D. Smith, E. Dalton, N. Main, V. Davison, W. McAdams, C. Sweeney, M. Sweeney, M. Haughey, A. O'Connell, N. Murphy, N. O'Brien, N. Flannelley, and Master A. Foster.

The Inspector of Catholic schools has furnished the following report on St. Mary's School, Manchester street, conducted by the Sisters of Mary:—The results of the examination of the school, with the exception of Standards IV. and V., are very satisfactory. Standards IV. and V. are very uneven in their work, owing to the number of exceptions. The neatness of the work in the upper standards is highly commendable (omitting the exceptions, for which the school is not responsible), and the reading is very intelligent. The behaviour of the children during the examination was very good. The reading was very good, with expression; spelling and dictation, good; writing, very good; drawing, very good, several excellent copies in Standard VI.; arithmetic, fair, weak in Standard V.; composition, good; geography, fair; grammar, weak; history, fairly good; mental arithmetic, very good; poetry, good; singing and drill, very good.

An exceptionally well arranged and successful operatic and dramatic entertainment was given in St. Aloysius' Hall by the pupils of the Marist Brothers' School, in aid of their prize fund, on Thursday, the 21st inst. There was a very good attendance and the young performers excelled in their respective parts, showing to advantage the excellent training they receive at the hands of their devoted teachers. The first part of the programme consisted of the operetta 'Donald's Hamper,' in which the characters were sustained by B. Kelly, S. Poff, W. Barrett, E. Boland, W. Duichan, B. O'Connor, J. O'Connor, C. Collins, J. O'Malley, T. Power, J. McAleer, T. Cronin, and W. Lyons; and dumb-bell exercises by the junior pupils. For the second portion a farce, 'Cherry Bounce,' was staged, the parts being taken by W. Barrett, J. Commons, P. Augarde, R. Holehan, J. Close, and J. McAleer. The accompaniments were played during the evening by Master P. Augarde. Valuable assistance in the rehearsals and subsequent production of the plays was rendered by the Rev. Father Richards, to whose energy much of the success of the entertainment was due. His Lordship the Bishop and several of the clergy were present.

In the midst of the joy and gladness of this festive season, permit me, on behalf of your many friends in Canterbury and more especially Christchurch, to tender all connected with the TABLET sincere and heartfelt wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year.

God deceiveth thee not. He is deceived that trusteth too much in himself.

The Catholic World.

BELGIUM.—Death of a Well-known Priest.—The death is reported of the Very Rev. Canon de Splenter, which took place at the institute of St. Charles Borromeo, Courtrai. The deceased was a well-known figure in the Salford diocese, where he was professor in the Salford Grammar School, and later rector of St. Edmund's, Miles Platting, Manchester.

ENGLAND.—Clerical Appointment.—The Rev. Father Howlett, of Dublin, the brother of Mgr. Howlett, of the diocese of Westminster, has been appointed successor to the Rev. Father Pennington, parish priest of St. Aloysius, Somers-town, who has been compelled to resign in consequence of advanced age and broken health.

Prayers for those Engaged in War.—Masses were said on November 1 and 2 at St. Mary's, Maryvale, Birmingham, for the soldiers now engaged in the war in South Africa, and on Sunday the charitable prayers of the congregation were asked for them by the priest of the mission.

The Poor of London.—On the last Sunday in October Cardinal Vaughan made an appeal at the Carmelite Church, Kensington, on behalf of the 600 poor kept by the Sisters of Nazareth at Hammersmith. In the course of a powerful discourse his Eminence said that society was becoming disorganised. There is division between one class and the other, a chasm which has been established between the rich and the poor. These facts are apparent to every man, and the social question has become one of the burning questions of the day. After referring to the fact that for 300 years the Catholic Church has been shorn of her influence, his Eminence referred to the condition of the poorer classes in the East and South of London. Men had come forward to ameliorate the condition of mankind by legislation or by science, but either was insufficient. There are thousands of men, women, and children living in certain parts of London who know not from whence the next meal will come or how they can pay for the miserable hovels in which they live. The question for consideration was, how can this condition of the poorer classes be changed? In London the Catholic Church had in some way endeavoured to deal with the social problem by means of a Union, and this Union had to an extent been successful, but a great deal more was necessary, and, above all, personal service. In appealing on behalf of the Sisters of Nazareth the Cardinal pointed out that the Sisters possessed institutions in almost every part of the world. They had large establishments in Johanneburg and Kimberley intended for the aged poor and for little children, and when recently notice was given to the Sisters that they might withdraw to a place of safety, they one and all elected to remain in the midst of the dangers of the war in order that they might nurse the sick and wounded, whether Boer or English.

GERMANY.—The New Archbishop of Cologne.—Bishop Simar, of Paderborn, who is to take the place of Cardinal Kremetz, the late Archbishop of Cologne, is a prelate of vigorous mind and energetic habits. Aged sixty-four years, he has already as professor, author, and Bishop rendered most important services to the Church. When Extraordinary Professor of Theology at the University of Bonn he published a work on moral theology, of which three editions have appeared, and later when he was appointed a regular Professor of Dogmatic Theology and Apologetics he had given to the world a treatise on Dogmatic Theology which has run into four editions. His experience goes back to the beginning of the Old Catholic movement, and his strength of character may be judged from the fact that though he had both friendship and encouragement from Dr. Dollinger when a student at Munich, he resisted the influence of the eminent Professor when he showed the first symptoms of revolt against the teaching of the Church. Dr. Simar has given his sympathy to every forward Catholic movement during his episcopate at Paderborn, and he will, no doubt, continue the same wise policy at Cologne. His relations with the State have always been friendly, and in 1884 the Emperor conferred on him the Order of the Red Eagle.

FRANCE.—The Clergy and the Press.—The well-known writer and non-Catholic, Mr. J. E. C. Bodley, in the course of a letter in the London *Times* with regard to the anti-Semitic movement in France, says:—As for the anti-Semitic Press, far from being in the hands of the episcopate, it attacks a Bishop if it disapproves of his conduct as scurrilously as it would a Jewish banker. The present Archbishop of Bourges, when Bishop of Digne, interdicted the *Libre Parole* in his diocese, but his action only unhappily proved that Press-censorship is a vain thing, and the episcopal ban gave a new impetus to the movement. The Bishop of Meaux more recently went to stay with a Jewish family in his diocese. Mgr. de Briey, who is not a Republican, and is the brother of a general, was thereupon vilified, with appalling insinuations, in the *Libre Parole* as a warning to other prelates who dared to be conciliatory to the Jews. The *Croix*, with its provincial editions, is said to be patronised by certain Bishops and one of its editors is admitted to the Pope's presence, but if a Bishop fell foul of it he would not be spared by its reverend directors, who are first violent French journalists and then Churchmen.

ROME.—The Health of the Holy Father.—Those who have recently been admitted into the presence of the Pope (says the *New Era*, November 4) have been struck by his apparently robust health. A French priest, who was recently received in audience by his Holiness after having been absent from Rome for some years, states that he was struck by the improvement in the Pontiff's physical condition. Leo XIII. is now, said the priest, less emaciated than he was some years ago, his eye is more brilliant and fiery, and his mind seems to

be more lucid. He seems to have reached a certain phase of his existence in which, barring accidents or complications, the *status quo* may be kept up for a long period. It need, therefore, surprise no one if the Pontiff should realise his ardent desire of living to be one hundred years of age.

SAMOA.—Damage to the Marist Fathers' Mission Station.—Shortly before the prorogation of Parliament Mr. Hogan, M.P., put a very pertinent question to Mr. Balfour as to the damage done to the mission stations of the Marist Fathers in Samoa when the British war vessels shelled villages supposed to be occupied by the adherents of the rightful King of the Samoan archipelago, the Catholic chief Mataafa. Mr. Balfour, in reply, acknowledged that damage had been done, though he endeavoured to minimise it to the utmost in the usual official fashion. Mr. Balfour added that according to the principles of international law there was no liability to make compensation for losses caused by the necessary operations of war. But where was the necessity for British war vessels to identify themselves with the cause of the usurper Malietoa Tanu? That is the point, and we (*Catholic Times*) hope Mr. Hogan, who has rendered such excellent service as the champion of Catholic interests in Samoa, will press it home when the House re-assembles. There can be little doubt that, through the blind partisanship of the American arbitrator, Chief Justice Chambers, the Governments of Great Britain and the United States were induced to take up an absolutely false position with regard to the rights of the rival claimants.

SOUTH AFRICA.—Departure of Missionaries.—Just now, when matters are somewhat disturbed in South Africa, it is interesting to learn that three young Irish priests sailed recently from Southampton for the Cape, bent on a mission of peace and apostolic charity. They go to take up missionary work in the Eastern Vicariate, under the Most Rev. Dr. MacSherry. The three young priests, who were ordained last June in Maynooth College, are the Rev. Thomas McCann, of the Archdiocese of Armagh, Rev. Joseph Early, of the Archdiocese of Dublin, and Rev. Frederick Keane, of the Diocese of Killaloe.

The Sisters of Notre Dame in Rhodesia.—The Sisters of Notre Dame who have gone to Rhodesia are now working with great success. In the current issue of the *Zambesi Mission Record* one of them writes: The native population is very scattered, they live at two or three miles, and even greater distances from the church. They are in a most savage state, quite friendly, but simply live as animals with no wish beyond living, their highest ambition being to get a little meat, for they have nothing but porridge made with Kaffir corn.

THE PHILIPPINES.—The Catholic Church Property.—Archbishop Chapelle, Apostolic Delegate to the Philippines, in an interview with a pressman lately, said: 'The Church property in the Philippines belongs exclusively to the Church. The Queen and Government of Spain had not one cent. of interest in that property, and the United States, therefore, acquire nothing. As to education, the *per capita* of illiteracy of the island of Luzon is less than that of the State of Massachusetts.'

UNITED STATES.—Annual Meeting of the Archbishops.—At the annual meeting of the Archbishops of the United States held at the Catholic University, Washington, several topics of absorbing interest were considered. Contrary to expectation, the Philippines received little attention, as it was thought best to leave that matter until Archbishop Chapelle had fully investigated the question and made his report. The Pope's letter on 'Americanism' was, of course, the subject of comment, but, so far as learned, it was merely considered in an informal manner. The most important action was the decision to appeal to the Congregation of the Propaganda to persuade that body to allow the Christian Brothers to maintain their course of study as pursued for some years past in the United States. A set of resolutions will be sent to the Vatican, of which Archbishop Riordan, who leaves shortly for Rome, will be the bearer. The question of the maintenance of the Indian Mission Schools was also considered. The report of Mgr. Joseph Stephen was heard and approved. The last Government appropriation for Indian schools, under which the Church has been acting, will expire June 30, 1900. The Board agreed to continue the work for another year, even if the Church bore the entire burden of the schools.

A Generous Donor.—Mrs. Thomas F. Ryan, of New York city, has purchased a plot of ground adjoining the lot which she recently presented to the Sisters of the Perpetual Adoration. Mrs. Ryan's gift covers half a block of ground, on which will be built a 100,000 dollar convent, to be known as the Convent of the Blessed Sacrament. Ground has been broken for a handsome structure, and the corner-stone was to be laid with appropriate ceremonies in December. Mrs. Ryan is an enthusiastic member of the Tabernacle Society, which was founded in Washington by Archbishop Keane, herself, and Miss Fannie Whelan, in 1876. The object of this Society is to provide altar service for the poor churches, and Mrs. Ryan's convent will be its future permanent home.

When a responsible authority like the *British Medical Journal* speaks in approval of a medicine, the public may rest assured that such medicine deserves all that is said of it. In the issue of the above journal, of March 11, there is an interesting article by Dr. J. C. Ross, physician to Ancoats' Hospital, Birmingham, on influenza and its successful treatment by the Cinnamon Cure. He reports having treated thousands of cases during the past five years, and invariably the cure has been complete in a couple of days. Townsend's Cinnamon Cure is a specific for influenza and all bronchial and lung affections.—*

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL, TEMUKA.

THE annual entertainment given by the pupils of St. Joseph's Convent School was held in the Volunteer Hall, Temuka, on December 18. The building was crowded, and the frequent applause testified to the appreciation of the audience. The entertainment opened with an instrumental item (four pianos and organ) played by Misses Batters, Prattley, Coira, Roulston (2), Gaffaney, Brosmean, Earl, and Beri. The remainder of the programme was as follows:—Chorus, the girls; solo, Master Spillane; march, song, and drill, the senior pupils; solo, Miss Coira; trio (four pianos and organ), Misses Beri, O'Donohue (2), Twomey, Coira, Farnie (2), Comer, Harrison, Larcombe, and Burke, and Master Coira; part song, Masters Spillane, Lavery, Twomey, Bourke, Rooney, Horgan, Tangney, Spillane, and Wareing; song, the infants; solo, Miss Connolly; cantata, 'Too Bad,' children; instrumental duet (four pianos and organ), Misses Coira, Gaze, Blyth, Scannell, Beri, O'Donohue, Harrison, and Farnie (2); drill, Indian clubs, Masters J. Rooney, Creedy, Fitzgerald, O'Shea, Elkins, Clarke, Knight, Carr, Flynn, and Tangney; solo, Master Spillane; song, with whistling chorus, boys; dance, Master Lavery; song and drill, junior pupils; song, Master Twomey; solo (four pianos and organ), Misses Gaffaney, Coira, Earl, Prattley, and Roulston; drama, Masters Twomey, O'Donovan, Spillane, Hargan, Lavery, Rooney, and Burke; dance, Misses Twomey (2), Lavery, Story, Scannell, Connolly, O'Donohue, and Beri; song, Misses Connolly, Coira, Connell, and Earl; solo, 'Where the grass grows green,' Master Spillane; National Anthem.

OAMARU CONVENT SCHOOLS.

THE distribution of prizes to the pupils attending the Oamaru Convent High School took place on December 18, the Rev. Father Howard, in the unavoidable absence of the Very Rev. Dean Mackay, presiding. Several recitations, solos, and choruses (says the *Mail*) were very creditably rendered. The pianoforte solos of the Misses Hannon, Duggan, and Duguid deserve special mention. The duets by the Misses Cartwright, Rodgers, Corcoran, Desmond, Curran, Molloy, and Masters Wise and Fitzgerald were also well played. At the conclusion of a very pleasing entertainment Father Howard distributed the prizes, and in a few well-chosen words thanked the pupils for their musical treat, and congratulated them on the progress they had made during the year. He wished them a very happy Christmas and pleasant holidays.

There was a very fine display of works of art and needlework in the schoolroom, but not for public inspection, as they are reserved for a bazaar and art union to be held shortly. Among the works of art in drawing and painting were some by Misses Roberts, Bee, Hille, Tomkins, Golding, Atkinson, O'Connor, McNaught, Ford, Rowland, Hamilton, Hannon, and Delargy. The exhibitors of needlework were Misses Wright, Corcoran, Rodgers, Desmond, O'Connor (2), Boyle, McMullin, and Rowland.

The following is the prize list:—

KINDERGARTEN.

First year's course.—Brick-building—Lelia Benson. Spelling—John Corcoran. Construction of Forms—Katie Dwyer. Color and Form—James Corcoran.

Second year's course.—Gift VIII and Reading—Mary Healy, Gift X and Spelling—Dan Kelly. Gift VI and Arithmetic—James Spiers. General improvement—Eugene Fitzgerald. Religious Knowledge—James Spiers.

Third year's course.—Gift XI—Cissy Rooney. Gift XIV and Arithmetic—Eddie Rooney. Gift XII and Drawing—Osborne Wise. Gift XVIII and Spelling—J. Fitzgerald. Recitation—Cissy Rooney. Improvement in Music—Osborne Wise. Mental Arithmetic—John Fitzgerald. Religious Knowledge and Good Conduct—E. Rooney.

ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL.

Intermediate Grade, Class A.—English—Nellie Corcoran; hon. mention: M. Fagan, Nellie O'Connor, A. Wright, F. James. Mathematics—Maggie Fagan; hon. mention: N. Corcoran, N. O'Connor. French—N. Corcoran; hon. mention: E. Desmond. Science—N. Corcoran.

Junior Grade, Class A.—English—Elsie Desmond; hon. mention: M. M'Mullin. Arithmetic—E. Desmond. French—Mary M'Mullin; hon. mention: M. Gilligan.

Junior Grade, Class B.—English—May Molloy; hon. mention: L. O'Connor, N. Curran. Arithmetic—Lizzie O'Connor. French—Nellie Curran.

General Prizes—Class singing: M. Gilligan; hon. mention, M. Fagan. Music (instrumental)—N. Corcoran; (theoretical), Stanley Roberts. Model Drawing—N. O'Connor. Drawing from Nature—Horace Benson, Calisthenics—Elsie Desmond. Deportment—Nellie Curran. Attendance—N. Corcoran and M. Molloy. General Improvement—Flossie James. Art Needlework—Edith Gray. Book-keeping and Phonography—Sara Taylor. Composition—Maggie Fagan. Botany and Gardening—N. Corcoran 1, May Molloy 2, N. Curran 3. Politeness and Order—Elsie Desmond. Christian Doctrine—Annie Wright. Good Conduct—Mary M'Mullin. The Wreath, awarded by the votes of the pupils to the most amiable girl in the school—A. Wright.

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL.

The children attending St. Joseph's School passed a most successful examination, and the Inspector's report was an excellent one. The prizes were distributed by Rev. Father Howard. The following is the list:—Good Conduct—Mary Murphy. Christian Doctrine—E. Ongley. Attendance—Amy Gilligan. Special Prizes for Singing—Nelly Magee and Nellie Cagney. Special Prizes for Punctuality—Maggie Connell, Maggie Fodie, E. Ongley. Special Prize for Darning—Bridget Wright. Prize for Amiability—Eliza Diver.

Friends at Court.

GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR.

(Written for the N.Z. TABLET.)

December 31, Sunday.—Within octave of Nativity of Jesus Christ, 1900

- January 1, Monday.—Feast of the Circumcision.
 " 2, Tuesday.—St. Macarius, Anchorite.
 " 3, Wednesday.—St. Genevieve, Virgin.
 " 4, Thursday.—St. Thos. Plumtree, Martyr.
 " 5, Friday.—St. Simon Stylites.
 " 6, Saturday.—Feast of the Epiphany.

ST. GENEVIEVE, VIRGIN AND PATRONESS OF PARIS.

In A.D. 429, St. Germanus, Bishop of Auxerre, was sent into Britain by Pope St. Celestine to combat the rising heresy of Pelagius. Travelling in company of St. Lupus of Troyes, he arrived at Nanterre in the neighbourhood of Paris, where many of the inhabitants came out to meet him. Germanus made them a suitable exhortation, and looking round upon the assembled crowd fixed his eyes upon a little girl of six years old, in whom he remarked something supernatural. Having called her to him, he reverently kissed her on the head, to the great surprise of the spectators, and inquired her name and that of her parents. He was told that she was called Genevieve, and that her father's name was Severus and that of her mother Gerontia. Her parents coming up, he congratulated them on being blessed with such a daughter, and declared that the day would come when she would be a bright example to people of both sexes. He then exhorted her to reveal to him the secret thought which she nourished in her heart, and asked her whether it was not her desire to become the consecrated spouse of Jesus Christ. She replied that this was her fixed intention, and begged him to give her the solemn benediction bestowed on those who embraced the state of virginity. They then entered the church for the office of none, after which certain psalms were sung and prayers recited, while the Bishop kept his right hand upon the child's head. He afterwards took his meal with her parents, and bade them bring their daughter to him on the following morning. They did so, and Germanus asked her if she remembered what she had promised the previous day. 'Yes, holy Father,' she replied, 'and with God's help and by the aid of your prayers, I hope to observe it.' Then looking upon the ground he perceived a piece of copper marked with a cross, which he picked up and gave to her, saying, 'Keep this for my sake, and wear it always round your neck in place of other ornament. As for gold and precious stones, leave them to those who serve the world.' He then commended her again to the care of her parents and resumed his journey.

From the age of fifteen to that of fifty, Genevieve ate but twice a week—namely, upon Sunday and Thursday. Her food was only barley bread and beans, and she never tasted wine or other intoxicating liquor. A few days after the departure of St. Germanus, her mother wished to prevent her from going to Church, and not succeeding struck her on the cheek. At the same moment the mother was struck blind, and remained so for two years. At the end of that time, calling to mind the prediction of St. Germanus, she bade her daughter bring some water from the well and make the sign of the cross over her. Genevieve did so, and when she had washed her mother's eyes, the latter began to see a little, and after two or three washings was entirely restored to sight. Upon the death of her parents, Genevieve went to live with her godmother in Paris. She there received the veil from the Bishop with the usual solemnities in company with two other virgins. Almighty God tried her with many sufferings. On one occasion her body was struck with paralysis, and for three days she appeared as if dead. Upon returning to herself she related that an angel had conducted her to the abode of the just to behold the reward which God had prepared for those who love him. She also received the gift of being able to read the secrets of hearts.

A report having gone abroad that Attila, King of the Huns, was coming to ravage Gaul, the inhabitants of Paris were so terrified that they resolved to emigrate and transport their goods into other cities of greater strength. Genevieve did all in her power to dissuade them, and, gathering together the women, exhorted them to have recourse to prayer and fasting, as in the days of Judith and Esther, to avert the anger of God. They accordingly assembled in the baptistery, where for many days they gave themselves up to prayer and works of penance. She warned their husbands not to quit Paris as by the Divine protection it would remain uninjured, while the cities to which they thought of flying would be laid waste. Her words, however, were unheeded by the citizens, who raised an outcry against her and treated her as a false prophetess, threatening to stone her to death or drown her in a pit. At this crisis the Archdeacon of St. Germanus arrived from Auxerre. He found the Parisians assembled at the corners of the streets, and talking of killing Genevieve. 'Beware,' said he, 'of committing so great a crime. She whose death you are plotting is, as we have learned from our holy father Germanus, a chosen servant of God.' These words delivered the virgin from further molestation, and when afterwards the citizens beheld the Huns turning their forces in another direction, they began to regard her as a Saint.

While the admirable virtues and tender charity of Genevieve secured for her the affection of the people, the miraculous gifts with which God favoured her, strongly excited their veneration. Frequently did they behold her with the sign of the cross cure the sick, give sight to the blind and speech to the dumb, cast out devils, and even raise the dead to life. For the hand of God was with her in all that she undertook. After a life of 89 years spent in the practise of every good work, Genevieve happily expired on January 3, A.D. 518, and was interred in the famous church of her name at Paris, of which city she has always been regarded as the principal patron.

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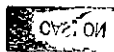
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Irish News.

ANTRIM.—Death of a Representative Catholic.—Mr Charles L. Nash, J.P., Greenacres, a member of one of the oldest Catholic families in Ulster, passed away on October 27, fortified by the rites of the Church, of which he was a devoted member.

Honouring the ex-Lord Mayor of Belfast.—The Royal University of Ireland has conferred the degree of LL.D. *honoris causa* on the Rt. Hon. W. J. Pirrie, ex-Lord Mayor of Belfast.

A New Altar for Ballybay Church.—A handsome altar dedicated to St. Joseph has been erected in St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Ballybay. The table and benches are of highly-polished Sicilian marble, and rising from the centre is a massively-carved canopy of Caen stone, with Cork red marble pillars. A life-sized statue of St. Joseph occupies the space inside this canopy. The caps under the table are also of Caen stone, with Cork red marble pillars. The panels are elaborately carved, the centre one representing St. Joseph. The altar was executed by Mr Ryan Lowe, Dominick street, Dublin, and is a pleasing addition to this attractive parish church. The altar is the gift of Messrs Fee Bros., druggists and grocers, Ballybay.

A Protestant Newspaper on Street-preaching.—The *Irish Church News*, the organ of the Disestablished Church in Belfast, unburies itself in this fashion regarding street preachers:—‘A few Sunday evenings ago we were in High street, Belfast, and at the Albert Memorial our progress was impeded by the presence of a semi-disorderly mob. Under the statue of Prince Albert, on the front of the clock tower, was a Union Jack, and under its folds was a little man, praying—or, as we heard it put by a man in the crowd, “instructing Almighty God.” We wanted to hear what it was all about—and we question if it was worth the trouble—but one thing was borne in upon us, viz., that the laws of public meetings in this country are abused, and that the abuse is winked at by our local representatives of law and order. To our mind it is simply intolerable that a creature endowed only with the gifts of illimitable clap-trap, an unqualified quantity of impudence, backed up by an illiteracy which is probably the staple of his stock-in-trade, should be allowed so inflame the minds of others as ignorant as himself, without let or hindrance on the part of the powers that be.’

CORK.—The Duties of a Catholic Priest.—The Most Rev. Dr. O’Callaghan, Bishop of Cork, writing to the local papers in reference to a libel action threatened against Dr. Keane, O.P., by an Opera Company for condemning from the altar as immodest and injurious to the morals of youth the pictorial posters announcing a coming play, says that whilst a priest is strictly forbidden by the Decrees of the Synod of Thurles and Maynooth to denounce individuals in the pulpit without the permission of the proper authority, there can be no doubt that it is the duty of a Catholic priest charged with preaching the Word of God to cry down scandals with all his strength, and even in the strongest words.

DONEGAL.—Annual Re-Union of Donegal Men in Glasgow.—The twenty-second annual Donegal Re-union was held on the evening of October 30, in the City Hall, Glasgow. Cardinal Logue presided, and had the support on the platform of the Bishop-Auxiliary of Glasgow, Mgr. Grady, Canon McBrearty, Canon Chisholm, Canon Morris, Councillor O’Hare. Messrs. Francis Henry, J.P., Edward Gallaher, J.P., Dr. P. A. Smith, J.P., etc. Mr. W. G. M’adden (secretary) read the address of welcome to the Cardinal, who, in his reply, referred to the want of unity and co-operation among Irishmen.

DUBLIN.—Belleek Pottery Works.—In a recent issue of *Chambers’ Journal* there is an interesting article contributed by Miss Mary Georges on the Belleek Pottery Works. Belleek ware, as everybody knows, is the most delicate and exquisite produced anywhere, and Belleek is in Ireland. Miss Georges traces the career of the great industry which has made Belleek famous all over the world, from its earliest beginnings to the present day. That career has not been always one of great success. There have been periods of doubt and difficulty; but at present, thanks to the energetic and enlightened management, it has been thoroughly established on a sound basis.

An Illicit Still in the City.—The city of Dublin is the last place one would expect to find an illicit still, yet only a few weeks ago the police discovered that a man named Brady was making whisky, figuratively speaking, under their very noses. The still was found in full working order at Brady’s residence, Lower Gloucester street. The solicitor for the Excise authorities mentioned that the accused had been convicted in November, 1884, for having an illicit still at Beesborough Avenue, and was fined £100 or twelve months’ imprisonment. On account of that conviction the prisoner could not now be let off lighter than by a similar penalty. Brady was fined £100, or in default twelve months’ imprisonment.

Departure of a Priest for America.—Father J. S. Megannety, O.C.C., was presented with a handsome, illuminated address by St. Joseph’s Altar Society and the Children of Mary’s Sodality attached to the Carmelite Church, Dublin, on the eve of his departure for America.

KERRY.—An Unnecessary Innovation.—Lord Kenmare has refused to allow the Killarney Development Syndicate to place electric gondolas on the lakes of Killarney next season, as being an unnecessary interference with the existing boatmen’s occupation.

LIMERICK.—An Old Tobacco Firm.—We are informed (says the *Irish Tobacco Trade Journal*) that Messrs Spillane tobacco manufacturers, Limerick, whose Limerick roll and ‘Garry-owen’ plug have obtained such world-renowned repute, are about to erect a new factory with frontage in Robert street and Denmark street. From what we hear, the factory, when equipped, promises to be a model one in every respect, and we heartily congratulate this old-established firm on their spirit of enterprise.

SLIGO.—A Successful Student.—Mr. Thomas Scanlan, a native of Sligo, and a former student of Sligo College, was successful in obtaining a scholarship prize of £15 offered for competition by St. Andrew’s University recently. Mr. Scanlan, who is now a resident in Dundee, is a law student and well known for his interest in Catholic and Nationalist affairs in that city.

GENERAL.

Decrease in the Acreage Under Flax.—Recent statistics show a serious decrease in the acreage under flax—Ulster’s staple industry. In 1864 there were 305,000 acres under flax, in 1889 this had fallen to 112,486, and in 1898 to 34,215 acres. This is a serious thing for farmers in the North.

A Peculiar Law.—By a curious provision in the Act of Union between Great Britain and Ireland, Irish peers are allowed to sit for British constituencies in the House of Commons, although they are ineligible for Irish constituencies. Thus, during the last generation Lord Palmerston and Lord Mayo, afterwards Governor-General of India, although Irish Peers, sat in the House of Commons as members for constituencies in Great Britain.

Death of a Well-known Lady.—Mrs. Blood, who died on Sunday morning (says the *Dublin Freeman* of October 21) at the age of 84, was a very handsome woman to the last. As a girl in Kildare she was very beautiful, with a beauty that was transmitted to her two daughters, of whom Lady Colin Campbell alone is left. Mrs. Blood was twice married—first to Mr. O’Beirne, who was a cousin of Lord Wolseley. He left her a widow of 19, and some years afterwards Mrs. O’Beirne (*née* Fergusson) married Mr. Edmond Maghlin Blood, the representative of the Bloods, who settled in Clare in the time of Queen Elizabeth. Mrs. Blood was also half-sister to the last Earl of Roscommon.

The London Irish Literary Society.—The Irish Literary Society in London intends to open the new year with a series of what might be called lectures on the century. They will be delivered in February, March, April, and May as follows:—‘A Hundred Years of Irish Journalism,’ ‘A Hundred Years of Irish History,’ ‘A Hundred Years of Irish Song and Story,’ ‘A Hundred Years of Irish Wit and Humour’; and the respective lecturers will be Mr. Justin McCarthy, Mr. Barry O’Brien, Mr. T. W. Rolleston, and Mr. R. Ashe-King. Among the new members who have recently joined the society are Lord Justice Henn Collins, the Hon. Cyril and Frank Russell, Mr. Arthur Houston, Q.C., Miss Susan Gavan Duffy, Sir James Matthew, Lord Edmond Fitzgerald, and the Rev. A. L. Lilley. The society is quite free from any political bias.

The Medical Profession in Past Ages.—Dr. More Madden delivered an interesting lecture at the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Dublin, recently, on the occasion of the opening of the medical session. Referring to the history of medical science in Ireland, he said that in distant ages when the lamp of medical knowledge was unkindled in most other countries, its light shone with comparative brilliancy in Ireland. Continuing, he said: All the various faculties of these Celtic Catholic universities, for such was the character of many of them, were for long ages crowded with students from every part of Europe, who in some of them were subjected to a course extending over a period far more protracted than even that of the modern medical student. From these institutions also were sent forth men such as Alcinus, the founder of the University of Pisa, Johannes Scotus, Erigena, who in the ninth century was regarded as the ablest writer of that age as well as the first professor of philosophy in Paris, and countless others, to diffuse the lights of learning and science as well as of faith to the ends of the earth. Nor did that long intellectual pre-eminence cease in medicine at least, until some little time after the ruthless destruction of the Irish Monastic Universities during the reigns of Henry VIII. and Elizabeth, and even down to the middle part of the seventeenth century we find the far-extending fame of Irish medicine referred to by authorities of such eminence as Van Helmont. To the destruction of those Celtic Universities may, moreover, be dated the origin of the disabilities in the matter of higher education that for three centuries have pressed, and still press heavily on the majority of the Irish people, and on none more forcibly than on those of them belonging, as so many here do, to the medical profession. The latter during all these generations have been thus unfairly handicapped in the race of existence by the impossibility of securing, in accordance with their conscientious convictions, that full measure of academic training within the halls of a university which is so conducive to success in the higher walks of professional life or public employment, and which is accessible to their competers of every other persuasion. We may, however, rest well assured that in this, as in all other matters, justice, although long delayed, must, like that truth on which it is founded, eventually prevail. And therefore can we confidently anticipate that this last vestige of the dark shadows cast o’er our land by the successful intolerance of a by-gone age may for ever be swept away in the day-dawn of the twentieth century, which we trust will usher in the final and equitable adjustment of the Irish Catholic University question.

The Catholic Truth Society of Ireland.—The Catholic Truth Society of Ireland has been successfully launched. On Thursday, October 12 (says the *Dublin Freeman’s Journal*), its

General Committee met and chose an executive. Though the Catholic propaganda in Ireland is not so urgent a necessity as in Great Britain, the needs of a Catholic defence have been recognised in Ulster and elsewhere in face of a sustained attack. Furthermore, the foundations of Irish loyalty to the old Church can be strengthened by the story of past sacrifices and past conquests. It will be remembered that at the last meeting of the Maynooth College Union an admirable paper on the subject was read by the Very Rev. Dr. O'Riordan, of Limerick. Dr. O'Riordan advocated the establishment in Ireland of a Catholic Truth Society on lines similar to the Society which has been doing such excellent work in England. The project so strongly advocated by Dr. O'Riordan was taken up enthusiastically by the Union, and it also received the sanction and approval of the Hierarchy. The Society, it may be said, will not confine itself to the production and dissemination of literature on purely religious subjects. It will devote itself to Catholic literature in the widest sense, to all literature breathing the Catholic spirit. Since the last meeting of the Maynooth Union inquiries were made extensively as to the desirability of establishing such a Society, and everywhere the project was warmly welcomed. The proposed organisation received special commendation from the Hierarchy, and their lordships were most generous in contributing to the funds necessary for the starting of the Society. At the meeting of the Organising Committee, the Most Rev. Dr. Shehan, Bishop of Waterford and Lismore, was called to the chair. Amongst those present were the Bishops of Cloyne, Derry, Elphin, Canea, Down and Connor; Colonel Ross, of Bladensburg; the Very Rev. J. F. Hogan, D.D., Maynooth College; Mr. Charles Dawson, Sir Francis Cruise, Count Moore, M.P.; the Rev. Matthew Russell, S.J.; Count Plunkett, Mgr. Murphy, P.P., Kildare; the Rev. Dr. O'Riordan, Limerick, Sir Henry Bellingham, and a large number of clergy. On the motion of the Most Rev. Dr. Browne, seconded by the Most Rev. Dr. Donnelly, the Rev. Dr. Mannix, Maynooth College, was appointed hon. secretary of the meeting. The Most Rev. Dr. Healy, Bishop of Clonfert, was selected as the first president, and the vice-presidents selected were the Most Rev. Dr. Donnelly, the Right Rev. Monsignor Murphy, P.P., V.G., Kildare; W. R. Molloy, J.P., and Count Moore. A general committee was appointed, to consist of the entire hierarchy of the country and all present, with power to add to their numbers. Sir Francis Cruise and the Rev. Daniel Downing, Adm., Pro-Cathedral, were appointed hon. treasurers. The appointment of two secretaries of the Society—one to be a clergyman and the other a layman—was left in the hands of the executive committee. An executive committee was appointed, to consist of the president, vice-presidents, treasurers, and secretaries, as ex officio members, and of the following: The Rev. T. A. Finlay, S.J., the Very Rev. Canon Fricker, P.P., the Very Rev. Canon Ryan, P.P., the Very Rev. Canon O'Hanlon, P.P., the Rev. Dr. Mannix, the Rev. Dr. Hogan, Count Plunkett, Charles Dawson, John Rochford, J. B. Cullen, Judge Carton, the Rev. Dr. Hickey, the Rev. T. McCotter, Belfast; the Rev. Father O'Doherty, P.P., Longtower, Derry; Colonel Ross, of Bladensburg; Sir Henry Bellingham, the Rev. P. A. Sheehan, P.P., Doneraile; the Rev. Dr. O'Riordan, Limerick; Lord Emly, Stanley Harrington, J.P., Cork; the Very Rev. Dr. Fahy, P.P., Gort; the Right Rev. Mgr. Kelly, P.P., Athlone; the O'Connor Don, and R. Kelly, Castlebar.

THE CATHOLIC CONGRESS IN SYDNEY.

AN INTERVIEW WITH CARDINAL MORAN

A REPRESENTATIVE of the Sydney *Freeman's Journal* had an interview recently with his Eminence Cardinal Moran with regard to the Australasian Catholic Congress to be held at Sydney in October. The interviewer asked if Mr. Mulhall, the eminent statistician, had already sent a paper on the progress of the Church in the nineteenth century?

MR. MULHALL'S PAPER.

'Yes, the paper has reached us,' replied his Eminence, 'and a very fine, a most valuable, paper it is. I have written to Mr. Mulhall, thanking him, and at the same time asking him if he will be good enough to bring his paper up to date. When Mr. Mulhall wrote it was our intention to hold the Congress early in 1900. Since that time it has become a matter of necessity to put off the Congress till October of next year. We wish to have the Cathedral as it stands complete in every detail by the time the Congress assembles. The laying down of the floor in marble and arkolite will delay us till July. As the Triduum in celebration of what we may speak of as the completion of the Cathedral is to serve as a prelude or preface to the Congress, we selected October as the month which would best suit the convenience of the Bishops and representative laymen of the other colonies. We hope to see the whole Australasian Church well represented—Australia, New Zealand, and Tasmania. We will find places also for Fiji, New Guinea, and Samoa.'

'Is it not a happy accident of fortune to get a paper from such an eminent authority as Mr. Mulhall?'

'Well, you see, Mr. Mulhall is one of my old boys. He was a student when I was a professor long ago in Rome. So I think I have a claim on him. It is not outside the range of probability that he will attend the Congress. He is fond of travel, and I have invited him to come and see what we are like. At present he knows us only by statistics. If he comes he will have a warm welcome not only from Catholics, but from the whole community.'

DURATION OF THE CONGRESS.

'How long will the Congress last, your Eminence?'

'I think I am safe in saying that the whole proceedings, allowing for entertainments, dinners, and picnics, will be compressed within a week. This would also cover the three days set apart for the cathedral ceremonies. We shall have several centres or meeting places. It is proposed to have one session at St. Mary's in the new

hall, a second at St. John's College, a third at St. Patrick's College, Manly, a fourth at Riverview College, and so on. All the sessions should be got over within a week. Some of the papers will, of course, be taken "as read," but the principal ones will be discussed. It is our intention to publish all the papers and the principal speeches in a volume at the end of the Congress. Such a volume would be a valuable record showing the advanced condition of the Catholic Church in Australasia at the close of the nineteenth century. What a contrast to the position of the Church here at the beginning of the century!'

VISITORS FROM THE HOME COUNTRIES.

'Do you expect many visitors from the other side of the world, your Eminence?'

'When the war in the Transvaal is over, I shall be better able to answer your question. But apart from the war I know that there is what we may call a counter attraction in the Paris Exhibition. More than that, there are to be some very important celebrations in Rome. It may be our good fortune to have a few distinguished visitors from Europe, but I think I am safe in saying that most of those whose sympathy has been enlisted in connection with our Congress will be represented by their contributions in the way of papers and essays.'

ASSISTANCE FROM ABROAD.

In reply to a query as to whether any additional papers had been promised besides those already mentioned, his Eminence said: 'Here is a letter I received yesterday from the Rev. L. A. Lambert, LL.D., editor of the *New York Freeman's Journal*—

"Your Eminence—I have succeeded in securing the promise of three well-known writers to prepare papers for the Australasian Catholic Congress of 1900—namely, Father Doyle, editor of the *Catholic World Magazine*; Father Baart, author of a work on 'The Court of Rome,' and another on Canon Law; and Father Hudson, editor of the *Ave Maria*, and Professor of the Notre Dame University. I hope to procure another paper on 'Irish Catholics in America,' and still another from one of the professors in the American Catholic University, Washington. I am pleased to think that I have been fairly successful. I asked Dr. O. A. Brownson for a paper, but he wrote me that his hand is so disabled with rheumatism that he could not prepare it."

THE OBJECTS OF THE CONGRESS.

'Apart from its value in an intellectual sense, what good purpose will be served by the Congress, your Eminence?'

'That,' said the Cardinal, 'is a leading question. Within the last 10 years there has been a great revival of faith and religious enthusiasm throughout the world, and in a large measure this is owing to the Catholic Congresses which have been held in Paris, Brussels, Lisbon, Fribourg, Venice, and other European cities. Our present illustrious Pontiff Leo XIII., desires that all Catholics shall mark the end of the present century and the beginning of the next by a great manifestation of faith and love towards Jesus Christ our Redeemer. At a meeting held in Melbourne in November, 1897, on the occasion of the consecration of St. Patrick's Cathedral, at which the Archbishops and Bishops of Australia were present, it was determined that the Catholics of Australasia should be afforded an opportunity of joining in this religious movement, and of participating in its blessings, and that the most appropriate way of manifesting their faith and loyalty would be the holding of an Australasian Catholic Congress. As we in Sydney were pushing on the completion of our Cathedral, the assembled prelates decided to have the Congress in Sydney so that the date of holding would fit in with the blessing of what we may call our completed Cathedral. The dedication feast of this Mother Church of Australasia, in which all the faithful people of the Southern Continent have shown so deep an interest, may thus be made to coincide with the opening of the Catholic Congress. The centenary celebration of the Church in Australasia will be due at the same time. The Congresses held in Europe treated of matters chiefly connected with the attitude of the Church in relation to the leading questions of the day, and it is proposed that the Australasian Congress shall follow on similar lines of thought. Able and scholarly papers will do much to clear away the ignorance and prejudice which now prevail, and show forth the Church in all the beauty and grandeur of her sublime teaching.'

ITS INFLUENCE BEYOND THE COLONIES.

'Will the Congress exercise an influence beyond the colonies?'

'I am happy to say that already the Congress has attracted attention. As you are aware, we sent our syllabus to the old countries. Within the past few weeks I have received letters expressing pleasant surprise at the character of our programme. Some of the subjects selected, I am informed, have been greatly praised in many of the leading schools in the Old Country. This in itself will do good. It will not only make people at Home understand that there is such a place as Australia, but it will command their respect. I would not for the world make the statement publicly for fear of giving offence to our spirited young Australians, but there are many people on the other side of the world who regard Australia as a distant mission somewhere near Burmah. The reports of our Congress, if they reach these people, should convince them that we are an enlightened and progressive country. The Congress, although academic in character, cannot fail to awaken Catholic interest among ourselves. Taking a wider view, it will identify us with the Catholic world, and give us a recognised position. It will lift us out of a provincial groove and place us in line with the intellectual leaders of our faith. Among our Protestant neighbours in the colonies the effect of the Congress must be a good one. It will show them that we only ask our Church to be judged on its merits, and that we have nothing to conceal. The list of subjects will show our non-Catholic friends that we are not afraid to discuss scientific and other subjects which are supposed to be forbidden by the Church. In a word, I believe the Congress will help to clear away calumnies and show the Catholic Church in its true strength and dignity to those not of the fold.'

Remember . . .

That all

STERLINGS

Are Fitted with the

MORSE ROLLER-JOINT CHAIN.

Important Notice to Farmers.

Before purchasing your TURNIP SOWER, see

SAPWELL PATENT DAISY.

The Best Driller in the Market.

SAVES TIME and LABOUR,

MAKES THE DRILLS,

SOWS SEEDS and MANURE

AT ONE OPERATION.

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Your Old Friend the

INVINCIBLE M'CORMICK REAPER AND BINDER

Is still to the front, having

WON THE TWELVE BIG PRIZES IN FIELD COMPETITIONS IN FRANCE THIS SEASON ALREADY

MORROW, BASSETT & CO.,

Christchurch, Ashburton, Dunedin.

AGENTS ALL OVER THE COLONY

C A R D

WE beg to notify our numerous Customers of the Change made in our TAILORING DEPARTMENT. We have now secured the Services of an Expert Cutter of wide experience, who comes to us with very high Credentials as to ability, consequently we have every confidence in recommending him, feeling sure that gentlemen will receive entire satisfaction in

FIT, STYLE and FINISH.

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

SUITS TO MEASURE from £3 3s.

HERBERT, HAYNES & CO.
DUNEDIN.

RABBITSKINS.

RABBITSKINS.

EDWARD THOMAS & CO.,

LARGEST EXPORTERS OF
—RABBITSKINS—

NO COMMISSION. In the Colony.

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

BOND STREET, DUNEDIN.

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MR. T. J. COLLINS, DENTIST.

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

ENTRANCE next to BRISCOE AND CO.

C O S S E N S A N D B L A C K
ENGINEERS, BLACKSMITHS, MILLWRIGHTS
IRON AND BRASS FOUNDERS
CRAWFORD STREET DUNEDIN.

Manufacturers of Pumping and Winding Machinery, Hydraulic Mining Plant—including Hydraulic Giants, Sluice Valves, Elevator Castings, Iron and Steel Fluming, etc., etc., Dredge Tumblers Buckets, Links, Windmills, Waterwheels, Turbines, Brick and Drain Pipe Making and Wood-working Machinery, Horse Powers, Chaff Cutters, Turnip Pulpers, and all kinds of Machinery and Gearing.

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ESTIMATES GIVEN.

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FLETCHER, HUMPHREYS & CO.,
WINE, SPIRIT, & CIDER MERCHANTS.

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WAREHOUSE AND BONDED STORES :

CATHEDRAL SQUARE AND CHANCERY LANE

CHRISTCHURCH.

W A V E R L E Y H O T E L ,
QUEEN STREET,
A U C K L A N D .

MAURICE O'CONNOR (late of Christchurch and Dunedin) begs to notify that he has taken over the above favourite hotel, close to Train and Wharf. Splendid view of Harbour.

Best brands of Wines and Spirits always on hand.

MAURICE O'CONNOR.

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From 40 GUINEAS to 75 GUINEAS

By the BEST ENGLISH MAKERS.

Second-Hand Pianos from £16 to £28 at

HOGG'S PIANO WAREHOUSE,
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BREWER, BOTTLER, AND AERATED-WATER

MANUFACTURER,

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STANDARD

FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS

FIRST.
Boots with this Brand on the heel are Guaranteed to Fit and Wear Well.

SECOND.
On this Brand only the Very Best of Workmen are employed.

THIRD.
Only the Very Best of Materials are used in this Brand of Boots and Shoes.

FOURTH.
Farmers, Miners, and all who want to keep their feet dry, try this Brand.

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

Commercial.

(For week ending December 27).

MR. J. A. CHAPMAN, Sharebroker, Dunedin, reports as follows:

BANKS.—National, from 2/15/6 to 2/16/6; New South Wales, from 39/0/0 to 40/0/0; Union of Australia, Ltd., 35/0/0 to 36/0/0; Bank of Australasia, 63/0/0 to 64/0/0.

INSURANCE.—National, from 17/3 to 17/6; New Zealand, 3/1/0 to 3/2/0; South British, 2/14/0 to 2/15/0; 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 3/6/6 to 3/7/0.

LOAN AND AGENCY.—Commercial Property and Finance Company, from 5/0 to 5/6; National Mortgage, 23/0 to 24/0; 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 16/8; Mosgiel Woollen, 4/0/0 to 4/1/0; 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, 13/4/0 to 13/5/6; Ema Bay Railway, 12/0 to 12/9; Wellington Woollen, 5/0/0 to 5/2/6; Silvertown Tram, 4/17/0 to 4/18/0; New Zealand Refrigerating, 1/13/0 to 1/14/0; Roslyn Tramway, 5/3 to 5/9.

GOLDFIELDS.—Reefton: Big River Extended, from 8/0 to 8/6; Keep-it-Dark, 25/0 to 26/0; Alpine Extended, 4/0 to 4/6; Cræsus (Paparoa), 4/0 to 4/9.

DREDGING COMPANIES.—Chatto Creek, 55/0 to 60/0; Clyde, 52/0 to 53/0; Dunedin, 12/0 to 13/0; Empire, 3/17/0 to 4/0/0; Enterprise, 85/0 to 87/6; Evan's Flat, 35/0 to 36/0; Ettrick, 14/6 to 15/6 (paid up); Golden Gate, 130/0 to 135/0; Golden Beach, 50/0 to 52/0; Golden Point, 35/0 to 37/0; Tuapeka, 32/6 to 33/6; Vincent, 43/0 to 44/0; Hartley and Riley, 9/3/0 to 9/6/0; Jutland Flat, 4/0 to 4/3 (contrib.); Macraes Flat, 9/0 to 10/0; Golden Run, 48/0 to 51/0; Golden Terrace, 13/0 to 15/0; Magnetic, 63/0 to 65/0; Matau, 80/0 to 85/0; Molyneux Hydraulic (B), 30/0 to 32/0; Nevis, 22/6 to 26/0; Otago, 1/15/0 to 1/17/0; Upper Waipori, 2/3 to 2/9; Waimumu, 24/6 to 25/6; Sunlight, 33/0 to 35/0; Cromwell, 58/0 to 59/0 (prem); Riverbank, 6/6 to 9/0; Nil Desperandum, 42/0 to 45/0; Klondyke, 31/0 to 39/6; Waikaka Forks, 0/9 to 1/0 (prem); Dunstan Leads, 16/6 to 18/0; Ophir, 8/0 to 9/0; Golden Gravel, 1/6 to 1/9; Dunstan Pioneer, 1/6 to 2/0; Golden Reward, 9d 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.

AUSTRALIAN COMMERCIAL.

Sydney, December 20.—Wheat (nominal): New, 2s 6d; old, 2s 7d. Flour, Ls 10s to L7. Oats—Feeding: New Zealand, 2s to 2s 3d; Tasmanian, 1s 10d to 2s; seedling—Tartarian, 1s 10d to 1s 11d. Barley: Cape, 2s 3d to 2s 6d. Maize (market unsettled): 2s 10d to 3s. Peas: Prussian Blue, 3s 3d to 3s 6d. Bran, 7½d to 8d. Pollard, 9d to 9½d. Potatoes: New, Ls 10s to L5. Onions: L1 15s to L3 10. Butter: Dairy, 7½d to 8d; factory, 9d. Cheese: Large, 4½d to 4½d; loaf, 5d to 5½d. Bacon, 5½d to 7d.

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

Melbourne, December 20.—Wheat: New, 2s 7d to 2s 7½d; prime old, 2s 8d. Oats: Algerian, 1s 8d to 1s 10d; stout, 1s 10d to 1s 11½d. Maize, 2s 9½d. Bran, 7½d. Pollard, 10d to 10½d. Onions, to L2 10s.

Adelaide, December 20.—Wheat (quiet): new, 2s 7½d; old, 2s 8d. Flour, L6 10s to L6 15s. Oats: Dun and Algerian, 1s 7d to 1s 9d. Bran, 9½d. Pollard, 10d.

SOUTHLAND PRODUCE MARKET.

Invercargill prices current:—Wholesale: Butter, fresh, 6d; eggs, 10d 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 10s per ton; flour, L8; oatmeal, L9 to L10; pollard, L3; bran, L2 10s, including bags. Retail—Fresh butter, 7d; eggs, 1s 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, L3 per ton; fowls' feed, 2s 3d per bushel.

MR. F. MEENAN, King street, reports:—Wholesale price only—Oats: Good demand. Feeding, 1s 8d to 1s 9d; milling, 1s 10d to 1s 11d. Wheat: milling, 2s 6½d to 2s 9d; fowls' wheat, 2s 2d to 2s 5d. Hay: ryegrass and clover, best, L3. Straw: pressed, 22s; loose, 28s. Bran: L3. Pollard: L3 5s. Flour: L6 10s to L7. 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 firmer demand; L2 5s to L2 15s. New potatoes, L5 10s, Auckland; local, 8s.

London, December 19.—Wheat: 15,000 quarters of the Australian new crop, for January shipment, sold at 23s 3d.

Napier, December 21.—Messrs Nelson Bros. have received the following cablegram from the C.C. and D. Company, London: 'Best Canterbury 3½d; Dunedin and Southland, 3d; Napier and North Island, 2½d. Lamb, first quality, 4½d; second do, 4d.'

Melbourne, December 21.—There have been large sales of New Zealand oats during the last few days, covering over 30,000 bags.

London, December 21.—Twelve thousand quarters of South Australian wheat, January shipment, were sold at 23s 3d.

Frozen meat quotations are unchanged.

NEW ZEALAND PRODUCE IN ENGLAND.

Mr. H. C. Cameron, the New Zealand Produce Commissioner in London, in his report, dated the 17th November, states that inquiries show that although 'fishiness' was somewhat prevalent in Australian butter, that coming from New Zealand was exceptionally free from it. If any boxes of fishy butter came to hand he would endeavour to secure them. During the past few weeks the butter market has been in a most unsatisfactory condition, and he cannot say what the future prospects of the market are likely to be. He is not sanguine that fair prices are likely to continue, but possibly by the time the New Zealand butter comes on the market in any large quantity the prices may have improved. It was admitted last year that New Zealand butter was generally superior to that from Victoria, and he fully expects shortly to find New Zealand butter occupying a very high position in the estimation of the butter trade of Great Britain.

The cheese market has remained very steady, and there is every probability of the present firmness being maintained.

LIVE STOCK.

ADDINGTON STOCK MARKET.

The entries at the Addington market comprised 3321 fat sheep, 2000 fat lambs, 4310 store sheep, 525 head cattle, and 325 pigs.

FAT CATTLE.—The 226 fat cattle were mostly light to handy weights, only a few pens being prime Christmas beef. The market was most irregular, and prices were easier, without any quotable change. Good to prime steers sold at from L7 to L8 12s 6d, lighter L5 to L6 10s, extra prime show heifers L8 to L9, good L6 to L7, lighter down to L3 17s 6d, cows L3 7s 6d to L6 15s.

"Tested Seeds." New Supplies.

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

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

Clovers—Cowgrass, Colonial and Imported. White. Red. Alsyke.
Trefoil.

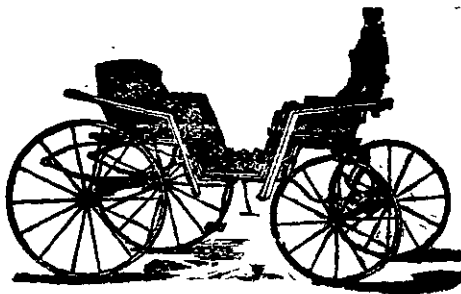
Turnip Seeds—*Swedes*: Champion. Elephant. Monarch.
Webb's Imperial. Tait's Best of All. Webb's
Giant King. *Yellows*: Aberdeen Green Top.
Aberdeen Purple Top. Romney Marsh (our strain
gave very great satisfaction last Season). Fosterton
Hybrid. *Whites*: Devon Greystone. Lincoln
Red Globe.

— Samples and Prices on Application. —

DUNEDIN CARRIAGE FACTORY,

Princes street South, Dunedin.

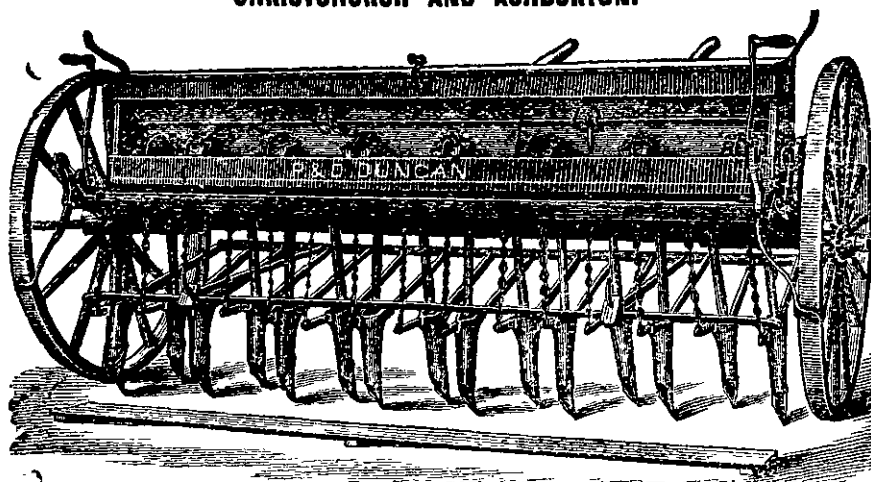
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Have now on hand
Single and Double
Buggies, Station
Waggons, Waggon-
ettes, Spring
Carts, etc. First
award for Carriages
at New Zealand and
South Seas Exhibi-
tion, 1889-90.

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AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERS,
CHRISTCHURCH AND ASHBURTON.



Manufacturers of Agriculture Implements and Machinery, sole manufacturers of
Duncan's Patent Drills, with Fertiliser Attachments; Duncan's Patent Spring Time
Cultivator, with Seeder Attachment; Duncan's Patent Disc Harrows; Duncan's
Patent Stubble and Multi-furrow Ploughs, etc. Agents for Marshall, Sons and Co.'s
Threshing Machinery.

The CLEVELAND.

A BICYCLE of HONEST VALUE.

Perfection is attained simply by not resting on Past
Achievements as Final.

The ROVER.

The PIONEER of the PRESENT DAY CYCLE.

Write for Catalogues to the Sole Agents—

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JAMES BARRIE,

THE BAZAAR (next Wilson Bros.),

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FANCY GOODS IMPORTER, FRUITERER,
and CONFECTIONER.

Picture Framing on Shortest Notice.

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

WESTPORT COAL COMPANY

(Limited).

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

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

RETAIL YARDS:

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

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

LYTTELTON and WELLINGTON—

Mararoa	Wed., Dec. 27	2.30 p.m. tr'n
Te Anau	Fri., Dec. 29	3 p.m. D'din
Flora	Fri., Jan. 5	3 p.m. D'din

NAPIER, GISBORNE and AUCKLAND—

Mararoa	Wed., Dec. 27	2.30 p.m. tr'n
Te Anau	Fri., Jan. 5	3 p.m. D'din

SYDNEY, via WELLINGTON—

Mokoiia	Thurs., Dec. 28	2.30 p.m. tr'n
Talune	Thurs., Jan. 11	2.30 p.m. tr'n

SYDNEY via AUCKLAND—

Mararoa	Wed., Dec. 27	2.30 p.m. tr'n
Waihora	Tues., Jan. 9	2.30 p.m. tr'n

MELBOURNE via BLUFF and HOBART—

Monowai	December 31	2.30 p.m. tr'n
Tarawera	Mon., Jan. 8	2.30 p.m. tr'n

**WESTPORT via TIMARU, AKAROA, and
WELLINGTON.**

Cargo only.

Upolu,*1141	Fri., Dec. 29	4 p.m. D'din
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* Calls at Nelson.

**GREYMOUTH via OAMARU, TIMARU,
LYTTELTON, WELLINGTON, and
NEW PLYMOUTH.**

Cargo only.

Taupo	Wed., Dec. 27	Noon D'din
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TAHITI and RARATONGA—

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

Taviuni	Wed., Jan. 3	From Auckland
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**FOR TONGA, SAMOA, FIJI & SYDNEY
(From Auckland).**

Ovalau	Tues., Jan. 16	
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ESTABLISHED 1880. TELEPHONE No. 69

BAKER BROTHERS,
FURNISHING UNDERTAKERS,

Direct Importers of Best and Latest
Designs in Funeral Furnishings.

FUNERALS Conducted with the
greatest Care and Satisfaction, at most
Reasonable Charges.

Corner of Wakanui Road and Cass
streets, and Baker and Brown's Coach
Factory.

WILKINSON AND SON,
FAMILY & DISPENSING CHEMISTS.

Since the death of the late T. M. Wilkin-
son this Old-established Business is now
under the proprietorship of his son, R.
Wilkinson.

All prescriptions and Recipes are dis-
pensed with care and accuracy from only
the purest Drugs and Chemicals.

Orders by post receive special attention.
For Xmas Presents of Perfumery, Sachets,
Hair Brushes, Perfume Sprays, Toilet Soaps,
etc., we have a large assortment to choose
from.

WILKINSON & SON, CHEMISTS,
Medical Hall, Princes Street, Dunedin.

"DEAR ME!

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

FAT SHEEP—A very mixed entry and a fair sale. Extra prime wethers brought up to 15s to 19s, freezing quality 13s 9d to 14s, lighter, 13s to 13s 6d, butchers' ewes, 8s to 12s.

FAT LAMBS—These were of better quality, and there was a good demand. Extra prime sold at to 14s, freezers 11s to 13s, lighter down to 9s 6d.

STORE SHEEP—The best yarding of store sheep for some time, and good inquiry. One thousand and ten four and six-tooth wethers brought 12s 6d, 528 do, 13s, 384 four-tooth 12s 10d, 134 13s 7d, 387 two-tooth do 11s 7d, and 222 do 12s 4d. Ewes and lambs (all counted) brought 6s 6d, 8s 8d, 8s 10d, 9s 1d, 10s 2d, 10s 6d, and up to 11s 9d, and hoggets 10s 1d to 10s 6d.

Pigs—The pig market was very flat for all sorts. Baconers brought barely 3d and porkers 3d to 3½d per lb.

WOOL, SKINS, TALLOW, ETC.

Sydney, December 21.—The wool sales for the year closed with a firm tone. The recent advances have been well maintained.

London, December 24.—Hides are in good demand. Sydney, 5½d to 5½d; Queensland, 5½d to 5½d.

Leather and basils are in short supply. There is a strong demand.

DUNEDIN WOOL SALES.

The first wool sale of the season took place in the Agricultural Hall, Dunedin, on Thursday of last week, when there was a large attendance, including several English, American, and Continental buyers. Over 4200 bales were offered, and competition, especially for the finer sorts, was very keen. This was attributed to the fact that the local buyers were anxious to secure the best kinds for the New Zealand mills. The prices showed an advance on those which ruled at recent sales in other centres in the Colony. This was especially the case with merinos and halfbreds. The quality of the wool was equal, if not superior to that of former years, being well-grown and clean. On the whole it is expected, from the samples submitted, that the clips will prove to be the best grown in the Otago province for many years. Compared with the closing rates of last year's Dunedin sales, merinos showed an advance of from 4d to 5d; halfbreds, 3½d to 4d; crossbreds, 2d to 3½d; and three quarterbred long wool, 1½ to 1½d.

Messrs Stronach Bros. and Morris report having held their first sale of the season at the Agricultural Hall on Thursday, 21st inst. Owing to the almost continued broken weather recently experienced having interfered with shearing operations, the catalogues were smaller than usual, the total offerings only reaching 4200 bales. There was a very full attendance of buyers, several new faces being present. English, Continental, and American firms were well represented, together with purchasers for Mosgiel, Roslyn, Oamaru, and Bruce Woollen Mills, and local shippers and fellmongers. Growers and others interested attended in force, and the part of the hall set apart for their accommodation was comfortably filled. Comparing prices with those ruling last season, we find that all descriptions were dearer, the following being the advances obtained:—Greasy half-bred: Super., 4½d; medium, 3½d. Greasy merino: Super., 5d; medium, 4½d. Greasy crossbred, 1½d to 2½d. Greasy Longwools, 1½d to 2d. The best clip submitted by us was on account of the executors of the late James Fulton (Ravenscliffe, Outram), and with this we topped the market up to time of writing, the half-bred bringing the satisfactory figure of 13½d per lb. The crossbred ewe of same clip brought 11½d, the Romney wool to 8½d, and half-bred pieces 10d. We also obtained 13d for halfbred branded 'Craigowan,' and 12½d for halfbred branded 'Cliff.' We had no very good merino forward, the best being branded 'R in Diamond,' which fetched 12½d per lb.

THE WEEK'S DREDGING RETURNS.

During the week ended Tuesday, 26th inst. (says the *Otago Daily Times*), returns were reported from the following 22 dredges, the total yield being 699oz 7dwt 6gr, or an average of over 31oz per dredge:—Junction Electric (Cromwell), 146oz 10dwt; Golden Gate (Island Block), 59oz 11dwt; Hartley and Riley (Cromwell), 57oz 8dwt; Manorburn (Manuherikia), 51oz 10dwt; Electric (Cromwell), 49oz; Empire (Waipori), 120 hours, 41oz; Inch Valley (near Palmerston), 132 hours, 33oz; Enterprise (Alexandra), 94 hours, 28oz 16dwt 18gr, 4 days; Tuapeka (Tuapeka Flat), 122 hours, 26oz 10dwt; Success (Waipori), 127 hours, 26oz 1dwt 6gr; Chicago (Alexandra), 5 days, 25oz 15dwt 6gr; Dunedin (Miller's Flat), 25oz; Molyneux Hydraulic (Alexandra), 21oz; Upper Waipori (Waipori), 18oz 10dwt; Nil Desperandum (Manuherikia), 17oz 15dwt; Evans Flat (Tuapeka), 15oz 13dwt; Jutland Flat (Waipori), 11½ hours, 11oz 10dwt; Sunlight (Beaumont), 140 hours, 11oz 5dwt; Galtee More (Manuherikia), 10oz; Morning Star (Manuherikia), 9oz 7dwt; Chatto Creek (Manuherikia), 3 days, 8oz; Ettrick (Moa Flat), 4 days, 6oz 5dwt. Total, 699oz 7dwt 6gr.

THE EXPORT OF GOLD FROM NEW ZEALAND.

The export of gold for November shows an increase of £40,016, and for the 11 months an increase of £400,000, the total being £1,359,640. It is 22 years since the figures have been so high.

The *W. A. Record* takes the following from a French paper:—At Marseilles, on October 8, four religious of the community of Notre Dame des Missions, embarked per s.s. Armand Behic for the Australasian colonies. Rev. Mothers M. St. Genevieve and M. of the Immaculate Conception for Perth, W.A., Rev. Mothers M. St. Paoome and M. du Saint Suare for Christchurch and Nelson, New Zealand. Thus the number of Religious who have left the Mother-House, Lyons, for the Missions during the past year has amounted to twenty-four.

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL.

MR. LETHBRIDGE, the former member, and a supporter of the Opposition, has been elected for Rangitikei.

THE election for the four Maori seats took place last week and resulted in the return of the late members.

THE lessee of the new dining room cars on the Government railway between Christchurch and Palmerston North pays a rental of £1092 per annum.

THE Christmas number of our Catholic contemporary, *The Age* Brisbane, is to hand, and a very creditable production it is. It consists of 48 pages of well selected reading matter, original articles, and some very good illustrations.

The total sum subscribed in Christchurch for the widow of Lorraine, the young aeronaut, killed while attempting a parachute descent recently, totalled £333. It has been decided to invest £300 for the benefit of Mrs. Lorraine, to be paid to her quarterly at the rate of £1 per week for six years.

SPEAKING at a social given in his honour the other night in Masterton, Mr. Hogg, M.H.R., said that he believed the Government would still further assist small settlers by relieving them of taxation and placing in on the broad shoulders, which were well able to bear it, of some of those gentlemen who had offered the bribe of a freehold.

MESSRS. Mills, Dick and Company's *Almanac* for 1900 contains a quantity of very useful information in a compact form. The merchant, storekeeper, and farmer—in fact, every householder—will find it a most useful book of reference. The contents cover a large area, and the matters dealt with are, in many cases, more than of provincial interest.

WE have been obliged to hold over several reports of school examinations, etc., which reached us too late for insertion in this issue. In consequence of correspondents not complying with our request that their letters for this issue should reach this office not later than Saturday morning, we have found it necessary to considerably condense communications that came to hand during the Christmas holidays.

MESSRS. Whitcombe and Tombs have published a cheap edition of that dramatic and highly interesting story, *The Miner's Right*, by Rolf Boldrewood. The volume is well printed, the type is clear, and the work is turned out in a very creditable style. To those who have read this stirring tale of Australian life in the gold days, no recommendation is needed; to those who have not, the present is an opportunity of becoming acquainted with a writer who gives a singularly vivid picture of life in Australia in the fifties.

To show the progress of Cheviot, Mr. Seddon quoted the following figures at the banquet given by the Cheviot Settlers' Association:—In 1891 the money orders issued at Cheviot amounted to £326, the money orders paid to £43, and the deposits to £810; in the year 1898-9 the value of money orders issued was £6962, of money orders paid £1599, and amount of deposits was £4448. This, he said, showed that the settlers were men of grit and worthy colonists, who, so far from squandering their money, had put by £4000 odd for a rainy day.

THE Hon. J. G. Ward was sworn in as Colonial Secretary, Minister for Railways, Postmaster-General, Commissioner of Telegraphs, and Minister of Industries and Commerce on Thursday. The Hon. J. Carroll becomes Minister of Native Affairs. The portfolios of Defence, Mines, Justice, and Attorney-General remain open for the present. The Premier will probably take that of Defence on the retirement of the Hon. T. Thompson, which takes place at the end of the year. It is said that the Hon Mr. Cadman will be called to the Upper House, and will retain his position in the Executive Council without a portfolio.

WE (Nelson *Colonist*) learn that a movement, just set on foot within his church, to evince appreciation of the good services of the Very Rev. Dean Mahoney, not merely as pastor of his church, but also as a citizen, has been gladly taken up, not only by members of his church, but by many others who enjoy the privilege of calling the Dean friend and fellow citizen. The occasion it is intended to mark is the completion of the Very Rev. gentleman's twenty-five years' ministration and residence in Nelson; and the proposal at first was to provide the wherewithal to enable the Dean to take a brief rest, and revisit his native land and Europe. We gather that the very rev. gentleman is chary of spending so much time away from his cure as would enable him to take so extensive a tour as was at first thought possible, but his many friends are desirous that he shall, at all events, take a brief rest, and that he shall be afforded an opportunity of visiting other centres after his devotion of a quarter of a century to his local duties. The suggestion has already met with very much favour, and its success is assured. The temporary absence of the very rev. gentleman would undoubtedly occasion regret to many, but the desire to evince esteem would be general, and a hearty welcome home would await the Dean after such a tour as his friends hope might prove beneficial to him.

Monsignor Merry Del Val, a prelate in close and constant attendance on the Pope, was on a short visit to London about the end of October. He is the son of the Spanish Ambassador at the Vatican, and a relative of the Count De Torrez Diaz, a well-known Spanish Catholic in London. He is young in years, but his experience in diplomatic matters is wide, and he has in all probability a brilliant career before him.

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The New Zealand Tablet.

FIAT JUSTITIA.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1899.

A FLAW IN THE BALLOT ACT.



THE system of voting by ballot is no novelty.
Long before the birth of CHRIST it had an
even wider application in the public life of
pagan Greece and Rome than it has in any
part of the British Empire to-day. For
centuries after its eclipse as a political resort,
it was used in the Catholic Church, as it is to
this day, in sundry elections, such as those of
bishops, abbots, popes, etc. It was first introduced into
English political life by the Act of 1872, and in one shape
or other has been adopted by practically every civilised
nation on the earth. It has tended to remove the idea that
a vote is an article of commerce, made intimidation
immeasurably more difficult than under the old 'open'
system, and so softened the asperities of electoral contests
that they are no longer associated with the broken heads
and the scenes of noisy merriment and violence immortalised
in the vigorous, if not over-delicate, caricatures of GILLRAY
and ROWLANDSON. The old open-voting system is gone
with 'HANS BREITMAN'S party' 'afay in the ewigkeit.'
The ballot fits the political conditions of our day so neatly
and naturally and comfortably that public opinion would be
as averse to falling back again on open-voting as flour
manufacturers would be to substitute the quern for the
roller-mill or military men to replace the Lee-Metford rifle
with that weapon of the war correspondent—the long-bow.
In the circumstances it will probably come as a surprise to
many of our readers to learn that the days of academic
discussions on the merits of voting by ballot are by no
means past. Even in the present year so distinguished a
writer as the historian LECKY has denounced it in his
Democracy and Liberty as 'essentially an evil' 'in any
country where politics rest on a really sound and independ-
ent basis.' That country is probably the one which
CARLYLE, in his *Sartor Resartus*, calls Weissnichtwo (the
land of 'I-know-not-where'). It lies three and a half
leagues beyond Amauros or the Vanishing Point. We can
resign ourselves with a tolerably good grace to so much of
'essential evil' as the ballot may inflict on the land of
Weissnichtwo.

The chief obstacles to free and conscientious voting are
bribery and intimidation. These, in turn, depend for their
success on the possibility, or public belief in the possibility,
of interested parties acquiring a knowledge of the manner in
which particular votes are cast. The chief value of the
ballot lies, then, in its secrecy. And the more thorough the
secrecy the more effective is the protection it affords the
voter against intimidation by employer or by mob, and the
greater the difficulties it throws in the way of the tempter
who would purchase the elector's independence with gifts.
It is, or ought to be, evident that the State, which confers the
right of voting, should make the protection of the voter from
undue influence as complete and thorough-going as it could
be reasonably made. In other words, the secrecy of the
ballot should be safe-guarded to the farthest limit that is
consistent with the prevention of personation and double-
voting and such-like offences against honest electioneering.
Now this is precisely what our Ballot Act does not. It
affords a ground of fact for one of the stock objections to
the ballot: namely, the conviction that its imagined secrecy
is to a great extent a delusion and a snare. By some strange
fiction or legend what is known as the 'Australian ballot'
is supposed to be the model of all the rest—Heaven knows
why. In the recent work quoted above, LECKY roundly
declares that it 'secures to the voter absolute secrecy.'
'In five years,' says he, 'the Australian ballot has been
adopted in thirty-five States, and it appears to have done
something to diminish the power of the caucus organisation
and to check the various fraudulent practices which had

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been common at elections.' The Australian ballot has proved a benefit to the United States in so far as it took the printing and distribution of ballot-papers out of the hands of the various political parties and protected the voter from undue interference at the polling-booth. But the 'absolute secrecy' is a myth. The number of every voter is written on a turned-down corner of the ballot-paper in the order in which he records his vote. This number, with the voter's name appended, is forthwith entered in a book kept at each polling-booth; and the whole is retained sufficiently long in a free-and-easy custody of semi-responsible persons to render it a matter of comparative ease for them to ascertain how every vote was cast. Even during the actual scrutiny the destination of any particular vote may be determined without difficulty by the scrutineers. The New Zealand ballot is apparently but a bedraggled variant of the Australian. It has the three following crying faults: (1) It gives even less of the protection of secrecy to the elector than does the Australian system; (2) it makes personation much easier; and (3) it affords special facilities for carrying out the good old American motto: 'Vote early and vote often.'

In fact, there is no system of ballot with which we are acquainted that offers so miserly a modicum of protective secrecy to the voter. We make a record in folly by writing on the turned-down corner of each ballot-paper the number which the voter holds on the printed electoral roll! It needs no DANIEL to see that this at once opens the door to wide possibilities in the matter of determining, at the scrutiny, on which side any particular vote is cast. Under our present system such discovery may be made without difficulty by the scrutineers in any one of the following ways: (1) By the accidental or intentional turning up of the number of the ballot-paper; (2) by holding the turned-down corner of the ballot-paper (which is of the flimsiest kind) to a strong light, as to that of a window or to that reflected from a scrap of broken mirror on table or desk; (3) by the fact that in the many varieties of folding adopted by voters, the number on the electoral roll must, in a great many cases, come directly under the eyes of the scrutineers; (4) by the sanctioned use of other pencils than those supplied in the booths—a method which enables a 'squared' elector to provide evidence as to the manner in which his vote was cast. We do not know what becomes of the voting-papers after the scrutiny. But if it be true, as stated to us, that they are retained for a considerable time and without adequate safeguards, then it is manifestly possible for individuals to ascertain how every vote in any given electorate was cast. The old Greek plan of voting with inscribed potsherds was preferable to this. The effective protection of the elector is, after all, the main purpose of the ballot. For this reason we are strongly convinced that neither the presiding officers of the polling-stations nor others present during the voting should have anything to do with the counting or scrutiny. The reason is very obvious. The presiding officer has, we understand, to witness his stamp on every voting-paper before it is dropped into the ballot-box. Apart altogether from the chances—referred to above—of noting the voter's number on the ballot-paper during the scrutiny, there must necessarily be a great variety of methods of folding the papers, some of which he could notice and indentify when perusing them. It is no answer to this to say that his oath binds him to secrecy. The possession of such knowledge should be made practically impossible, instead of being, as it is, a matter of comparative ease. Scrutineers who are present during the polling have it in their power to acquire the same information as the presiding officer. As a rule, they have also a greater interest in acquiring it. And as they are bound by no oath of secrecy their possibilities of securing information constitute a far greater danger to the secrecy which should safeguard the elector in the exercise of his right. The proper purpose of the scrutiny should be merely to secure formality of voting, not to imperil the secrecy of the ballot.

The chief flaw in our system manifestly lies in the ballot-paper. It is not, but it ought to be, a political truism that the ideal ballot-paper should show only (1) the names of the candidates, (2) the cross or other mark which indicates the elector's choice, and (3) the presiding officer's stamp. It

should give no indication whatever, direct or indirect, to show who used it. The prosecution of personation and certain other offences against the Act should be secured in some way unconnected with the voting paper itself. The system adopted in Great Britain—or at least in Scotland—presents the nearest approach to the ideal that we know of. The returning officer is a Sheriff of a County, or a Recorder, or other official whose position cannot be affected by changes of Government. He provides each presiding officer at the polling-stations with a locked, sealed, and empty box, retaining the key himself. This box must be returned to him with lock and seal intact and with an affidavit from the presiding officer of each polling-place that he has seen so many voting papers placed in it. These papers are supplied by the returning officer to each presiding officer, with butts, numbered consecutively like cheque-books. Each voting paper is stamped on face and back before being presented to the elector. At the same time his number on the roll is marked on the butt only. This is an improvement on the New Zealand system; for the identity of the voter can be ascertained only by reference to the butt. The secrecy of the vote is further safeguarded by a wise provision which deserves the flattery of imitation in New Zealand: authority to examine the butt of any particular paper can only be obtained, on special cause being shown, from an election judge of the Supreme Court. And we are not aware that any such authority has yet been given. The presiding officer at each polling-place is empowered to clear the room of loiterers. When illiterate voters present themselves and demand assistance the room is cleared of all persons but the illiterate and the presiding officer, and no person is admitted until the former has passed out again. When polling time is over, the butts, unused and spoiled papers, etc., are sealed by the presiding officer and forwarded to the returning officer. They are never opened except by order of the Supreme Court and in the presence of the Court. In due time they are, unless challenged, destroyed unopened. Personation and double-voting—so easy in New Zealand—are prevented or made both difficult and dangerous in Great Britain by having the constituencies divided into wards or districts. Each has its own polling-place, its own presiding officer, and that portion of the roll containing the names of the electors in that district. Identification is thus made comparatively easy and two temptations practically removed from the path of the shady elector. Here is a system much of which might be advantageously adopted in New Zealand. As it stands, our Ballot Act is, perhaps, the most defective of the many that are in force throughout the Empire, and strangely out of harmony with the progressive character of our legislation in other directions.

Diocesan News.

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent.)

December 23.

The Retreat for the priests of the archdiocese begins on the 17th prox.

Mrs. Campbell, the wife of one of our best known shipping masters, died suddenly last Saturday evening.

His Grace the Archbishop and the Rev. Father Ainsworth will rest until the beginning of February, when they will continue their missions, commencing on the West Coast at Westport.

Mr. P. McColl, an early arrival in New Zealand, died here on Sunday last. His funeral took place on Tuesday, when the Rev. Father Holley officiated.—R.I.P.

The Rev. Father Ginisty, S.M., of St. Patrick's Church, Sydney, arrived on Thursday. He is to preach the Retreats for the Priests of the Archdiocese, the Sisters of Mercy, Wellington, the Marist Brothers at Stoke, and the Sisters of St. Joseph, Wanganui.

The following pupils of the Sisters of Mercy at Palmerston North passed the Royal Academy of music examination:—Local Centre, higher division, (singing).—Isabel Oliver, Marion Wallace, and Clare Campion. Junior (piano).—Clare Campion. Elementary.—Evelyn Rawlins.

At St. Joseph's Church on Sunday last the Sacrament of Confirmation was administered by his Grace Archbishop Redwood to over 100 children and adults. The Mass was celebrated by Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, and an appropriate sermon was preached by his Grace.

The Fabian Dramatic Club had been somewhat unfortunate in their choice of dates for the production of 'Caste.' The Bland Holt Company concluded their season on Wednesday, and an amateur performance on the following evenings required a greater

drawing power than the Fabians can yet command. The Opera House was only fairly well filled at the two performances. The various parts received careful treatment from the performers.

The Rev. Brother Mark, M.A., and the Marist Brothers entertained the members of the Old Boys' Association in the schoolroom on Tuesday evening. Songs by Messrs. A. W. Smith, M. Eller, H. Gamble, C. Gamble, North, and J. O'Brien, and recitations by Messrs. J. Hyland, W. Naughton, and McDonald contributed to a most enjoyable evening. In the course of the proceedings the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy took the opportunity to congratulate the Brothers on the great progress the school was making as shown in the report of the Education Board's Inspector.

Another old colonist in the person of Mrs. Browne, the wife of ex-Police Inspector Browne, passed away at Kilbirnie on Thursday. The deceased lady was well-known throughout New Zealand, and in her last moments was attended by an old friend, the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy, who administered the last rites of the Church. A Requiem Mass was said by the Ven. Archdeacon Devoy in St. Joseph's Church this morning and the funeral services at Karori were conducted by Rev. Father Servajean.—R.I.P.

NAPIER.

(From our own correspondent.)

December 22.

St. Mary's Church was the scene of a pleasing ceremony on Sunday afternoon, when eight young ladies were admitted as aspirants, and 19 were received as Children of Mary by the Rev. Father Hickson.

A concert was held in the Theatre Royal last week, to provide funds for the school prizes. The items (vocal and instrumental) were provided by the pupils of the Catholic schools, and the handsome sum of £21 was netted. This result was largely due to the untiring efforts of the Rev. Father Hickson, who superintended the arrangements.

A Catholic bazaar was held at Clive from the 15th to 18th inst., for the purpose of raising funds to make alterations to the local church there. The bazaar was opened by Mr. W. Y. Dennet (Mayor of Hastings) and proved a financial success, over £100 resulting therefrom. At its close, the Very Rev. Father Smyth thanked his Worship the Mayor for his kind services, and in a few well-chosen remarks said the success was largely due to the efforts of the ladies who had charge of the stalls—viz., Mesdames Crowley, Burns, and Crombie, and their lady assistants.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND.

(From our own correspondent.)

Miss Clara Tole, of Ponsonby, a sister of the Hon. J. A. Tole, is, I regret to say, very dangerously ill at her residence, Ponsonby.

St. Benedict's Christmas Fair was opened in St. Benedict's Hall on the evening of December 22. The ceremony was performed by Sir G. M. O'Rorke, M.H.R. A full report will be sent for your next issue.

His Lordship Dr. Lenihan wrote from London on November 15, the anniversary of his consecration, and sent his blessing and good wishes to his faithful people. The Bishop expected to start for New Zealand in March.

St. Mary's Convent High School broke up on Monday evening, when the prizes were distributed by the Very Dr. Egan, O.S.B., and Mr. W. J. Napier, M.H.R. A fine concert brought the evening to a most successful close.

The boys of the Marist Brothers' High School held their annual sports at St. Helier's Bay last Wednesday. They were under the charge of the Superior (Brother Basil) and Brother Borgia.

[A full report of the sports has been received and will appear in our next issue.—Ed. N.Z.T.]

At Parnell, on Tuesday evening last, a most successful concert was given in St. Bonaventure's Hall, by the pupils of the Sisters of Mercy. The performers and their good teachers received high encomiums from all present. The exhibition of work was a brilliant feature. Indeed, it would be hard to equal anywhere for excellence the work shown in Parnell.

The Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan, says the *Catholic Press* (Sydney) of the 2nd inst., 'Bishop of Auckland, New Zealand, has been on a visit to Moate, having gone specially to call on Mrs. Hackett, mother of the Very Rev. Father Hackett, and was the guest of the Carmelite Fathers during his stay.' This paragraph has reference to the zealous and popular parish priest of Paeroa, the Very Rev. Father Hackett.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN.

The Rev. Father Colgan, S.J., of Melbourne, preached on Sunday night at St. Joseph Cathedral. He proceeded to Timaru on Tuesday to open a retreat at the local convent of the Sacred Heart.

Very Rev. Father Ryan, S.J., is conducting the annual retreat of the Dominican nuns who are temporarily occupying the new Provincial Seminary at Mosgiel.

Two more young priests who were recently secured by Bishop Verdon for the diocese of Dunedin are expected to reach the Colony by the next mail boat from Melbourne to the Bluff.

The Rev. Mother, Convent of Mercy, South Dunedin, desires to convey through our columns her deep sense of the kindness of the St. Vincent de Paul Society (Dunedin) and of the many other

friends who contributed towards the support of the Catholic Orphanage during the present year.

Masses were celebrated at St. Joseph's Cathedral on Christmas Day at 6, 7, 8, 9 and 11 o'clock, the latter being a Solemn High Mass. The Rev. Father Moloney of St. Patrick's College was celebrant, Rev. Father Murphy deacon, Rev. Father Cleary sub-deacon. Rev. Father Colgan preached an eloquent and impressive discourse. The choir, which was assisted by an efficient orchestra under the leadership of Mr. Naumann, gave a devotional rendering of Haydn's No. 2 Mass, the soloists being Miss Rose Blaney (soprano), Miss M. Drumm (alto), Mr. P. Carolin (tenor), and Mr. O. Feil (bass). Mr. Mr. W. T. Ward conducted. The 'Adeste Fideles' was sung as an offertory, the solo parts being taken by Miss Rose Blaney, Miss Bush, Mr. B. Stevens and Mr. W. Woods. There was a large congregation present at High Mass, and also in the evening, when the Rev. Father Murphy preached. The decorations were confined to the sanctuary, especially the high altar, which was tastefully adorned with flowers.

The unpropitious weather and the big patriotic meeting at the Agricultural Hall materially affected the attendance at Mr. Walter Kirby's song recital at the Choral Hall on Friday night. Those who were present enjoyed the fine programme presented. Mr. Kirby came to Dunedin with an excellent reputation as a vocalist, and his performance on Friday night confirmed the reports that had come from other centres. He was down for four items on the programme—'Alice, where art thou?' 'The star of Bethlehem,' 'Angels guard thee,' and 'An evening song.' Three of these were encored. Mr. Kirby's fine tenor voice did full justice to the numbers named, and the audience were very enthusiastic in their applause. Mr. Kirby also took part with Miss Rose Blaney and Mr. Jago in the trio 'Il Naviganti,' which was beautifully rendered. Miss Rose Blaney sang 'My dearest heart' and 'Robin Adair,' for both of which she was enthusiastically encored. Mr. James Jago contributed two vocal items—'Where willows whisper' and 'Love's proving'—in his usual finished manner. Two acceptable songs—'Sunshine and rain' and 'Two cities'—were very nicely sung by Mr. Wakefield Holmes. The balance of the programme consisted of a pianoforte solo by Mr. W. E. Taylor, and a violin solo by Mr. G. H. Schacht, played in these gentlemen's well-known artistic style. The accompaniments were admirably played by Miss K. Moloney and Mr. W. E. Taylor.

A enjoyable concert was given in the Volunteer Hall, Mosgiel, on Wednesday evening of last week, in aid of the local convent of the Sisters of Mercy. There was a good attendance despite the unseasonable weather, and nearly every item on the programme was redemanded. The entertainment opened with an artistically played overture by Miss K. Moloney. Miss Rose Blaney was down for two songs—'A Highland lad my love was born' and 'Close to the threshold,' the latter with violin obligato by Miss M. F. Blaney—which, it is needless to say, were imperatively encored, the accomplished vocalist complying with the request. Mr. Eagar contributed 'A man's a man for a' that,' and later on took part in a duet, 'Hunting Tower,' with Miss Morrison, encores being insisted on in both cases. Miss A. Marks sang with taste 'Sleep my pretty one,' and the same may be said of Miss Morrison's 'Robin Adair' and 'Bonnie sweet Bessie, the maid of Dundee,' both ladies being enthusiastically recalled. Mr. Jago's two fine numbers, 'A Highland man's toast' and 'Defence not defiance,' met with the warm appreciation of the audience. A very fine number was a violin solo by Miss M. F. Blaney, a repetition of which was insisted on. The second part of the programme consisted of a minstrel entertainment by the members of St. Joseph's Club. Those who took part in it were Messrs J. Black, J. Fottrell, F. Duval, W. Banks, F. J. Hussey, F. Heley, L. Pastorelli, M. Coughlan, and W. Clark. This part of the entertainment was productive of considerable amusement, the efforts of the club being marked by good taste. The local 'hits,' without being in any way personal, were very good, and thoroughly enjoyed by the audience. The club are to be congratulated on their very acceptable contribution to what was one of the best entertainments ever given in Mosgiel. Miss K. Moloney played the accompaniments in her usual finished manner.

On Friday last a mass meeting of the citizens of Dunedin was held in the Agricultural Hall for the purpose of raising funds for the relief of those who have been made widows and orphans by the present war in South Africa. The great hall was packed and the meeting was a very representative and enthusiastic one. The Catholic clergy of Dunedin attended and contributed generously to the fund, which reached the enormous total of £3,184. The speakers were nine in number and included the Anglican Bishop of Dunedin and representative clergy from each leading denomination in the city. The most taking speech of the evening was delivered by the Very Rev. Father O'Neill (Milton). On rising he received a perfect and prolonged ovation. No other of the nine speakers, with the exception of Mr. Scobie Mackenzie, was greeted with such an outburst of applause. Father O'Neill was the only speaker who really addressed himself to the subject for which the meeting was called—namely, the cause of charity. The others confined their efforts exclusively to attempts to justify the war itself. Our opinions on this subject have been repeatedly stated and are sufficiently well-known. Father O'Neill made happy references to the generosity and charity of the Irish and Catholic people. He concluded a telling speech amidst great applause with the following remarks:—'I have but one word to say. It is to remind you of a tribute of respect to the love and devotion of those who remained to nurse the sick in Ladysmith, Mafeking, and Kimberley. The Catholics nuns were there in possession of homes and teaching institutions, and were offered the alternative of leaving, but they bravely and unanimously decided that they would remain to nurse the sick (cheers). And now, ladies and gentlemen, I have just to give you a few lines of what our national poet says to some who have not read the history of the past, or who, reading it, did not read it aright. He said:

'Contempt on the minion who calls you disloyal,
Though fierce to your foe, to your friends you are true;
And the tribute most high to a head that is royal,
Is love from a heart that loves liberty too.
While cowards who blight
Your fame, your right,
Would shrink from the blaze of the battle array,
The standard of Green
In front would be seen.

Oh, my life on your faith were your summoned this minute,
You'd cast every bitter remembrance away,
And show what the arm of old Erin has in it,
When roused by the foe, you would join in the fray.'

A very enjoyable concert (says the *Standard*) was given in the Town Hall on Wednesday evening by the pupils of the East Gore Convent School. Notwithstanding the wet evening the Hall was filled. The concert opened with a pianoforte overture, exquisitely played by the Misses Archibald (2), Roche, and Smaill. The next item was a chorus by the girl pupils. In this the pupils looked very nice dressed in white, with blue sashes. The chorus was creditably performed. A song, 'Hunting doy,' by the boys, appropriately dressed, was excellently rendered. Miss Sherborne contributed a vocal solo. A pianoforte trio (two pianos) by the Misses Leahy, Fleming, Sherborne, Ward, Whitefield and Holland was a good number, the young ladies displaying excellent execution and touch. The Misses Archibald then sang 'Songs of our Fatherland' very sweetly, and had to respond to a well-deserved encore. The Misses Johnston, Smith, and Taylor then gave a song and dance in costume, 'Swiss Toy Girls,' the little maids performing very well. A chorus followed by the pupils, the performers doing their parts admirably. A trio for pianos was well played by Misses Fleming, Archibald (2), Stuart, Smaill, and Sherborne. A vocal duet by the Misses Sparks and Sherborne was another good number. The Misses Archibald sang a comic duet in character. The young ladies were vociferously encored, but did not respond. A pianoforte duet by the Misses Smith, Holland, Whitefield, and Walsh followed. The piece was done full justice to by the young performers. The vocal duet, 'The harp that once,' with violin, piano, and guitar accompaniment, by the Misses Archibald, Sherborne, and Sparks was one of the best items on the programme. A chorus by the pupils was sung with effect. The concert part of the programme was brought to a close by Miss Cowie, who played a violin solo, 'Life let us cherish.' Miss Cowie performed her solo in a very creditable manner. The entertainment was brought to a close by a one-act comedy, entitled 'Who is to Inherit?' the principal parts being taken by Misses Archibald and P. Fleming. The minor characters were filled by Misses Fleming, M. Archibald, Leahy, Johnston, Bowie, and Roche. His Worship the Mayor thanked the audience for their attendance on behalf of the management, and said that no doubt they were all satisfied at the performance. He wished them a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

BISHOP GRIMES ON THE WAR.

(By telegraph, from our Christchurch correspondent.)

THE following circular from his Lordship Bishop Grimes was read at the Pro-Cathedral, Christchurch, on Sunday, and is to be read in the churches in Westland and other parts of the diocese on next Sunday.

Rev. dear Father,

Nearly 2000 years ago, the first Christmas morn was ushered into the world by the angelic greeting 'Glory be to God in the highest; and on earth, peace to men of good will.' (L. 2, 14.)

Every recurring Christmas these heaven sent words are repeated and go forth filling countless souls with admiration, love, and delight. This year, the same holy greeting will be heard, but not, alas! unmingled with feelings of the bitterest sorrow and distress. That peace, so lovingly proclaimed from on high, has been disturbed by the horrors of war. It were needless, even though possible, to go into the origin of that fearful war. As far as we can judge, with the facts before us, the Home Government were forced to take up arms in defence of the outraged rights of those whom they were bound to protect. What we do know, with sad certainty, is that thousands of our own kith and kin, are now fighting at the call of their Queen and country to defend those rights. We know, too, that many have been struck down on the field of battle whilst nobly doing their duty.

Many a home will be desolate, many a father or mother, sister or brother, relative or friend will be cast down with the deepest affliction this holy season. Shall not our hearts go out to them in sorrow and sympathy in the midst of their distress? Have we not recently shown the world a grand object lesson revealing the fact, too often forgotten, that true loyalty and patriotism are bounded by neither geographical, political, nor even religious divisions? Who could behold without admiration every British colony, even the remotest, rallying round the mother country in the hour of her own and her children's distress? Was it not the spontaneous outcome of a loyal patriotism unparalleled in the annals of any nation, ancient or modern? Was it not a marvellous sight to see millions of minds waiving every other consideration, social, political, or racial; gladly merging all into the one noble, sacred feeling of love and sympathy towards those allied to them by the great bond of brotherhood. Have we not, rev. dear Father and beloved children in Christ, made common cause with our fellow-colonists? Assuredly we have. Does not there still remain a noble task to fulfil? Whilst so many near and dear to us are risking their lives at the call of duty in a foreign land, should we not lift up our hearts in prayer and supplication to the God of Mercy, the Prince of Peace, that fresh disasters may be averted, the atrocities of war soon cease, and peace be restored?

I know well, rev. dear Father and beloved children in Christ, no words of mine are needed to remind you of your duty in this respect; nor need I exhort you, and your devoted flock to be generous in helping the Patriotic Fund set on foot in behalf of the widows and orphans or other survivors of those who may have fallen in battle. Though I have reason to know that some of our people have already contributed to the Fund started in their respective locality, I hereby authorise a special collection to be made in all the churches of the diocese at a date to be appointed by the rectors thereof. The proceeds of this collection may be handed over to the local authorities in each parish or district.

You would do well, rev. dear Father, to recommend to the prayers of your congregation the souls of the faithful slain in battle, and have a solemn *Requiem* for the same poor souls as soon as possible in the principal churches of your district. When all the priests of the diocese meet in Christchurch for the annual retreat it will be a fitting occasion to have the Solemn *Requiem* in our Pro-Cathedral for the same praiseworthy object. In the meantime, instead of the prayer hitherto prescribed, you will substitute at every Mass—as often as the Rubrics permit—and at Benediction, the prayer *Pro Pace*, 'Deus a quo sanctorum,' etc. Believing, with the inspired penman, that 'It is, therefore, a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins' (II. Mac., 12-46), let us make a daily memento in our prayers for the souls of those of our brethren who may have been slain, saying from the depth of our heart, 'Eternal rest give to them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace! Amen.' You will be good enough to read this circular in the churches and chapels under your charge the first Sunday or holiday after you will have received it.

Wishing you and yours every blessing with the choicest gifts of this holy Christmastide, I remain, Rev. dear Father, yours faithfully in Christ,

† J. J. Grimes, S.M., Bishop of Christchurch.

THE WAR IN SOUTH AFRICA.

THE war news of the week has been very meagre, being mainly devoted to accounts of unimportant outpost engagements, and details of battles fought some days ago.

It is evident the British commanders are acting mainly on the defensive until the arrival of reinforcements, or that if any important movements are taking place, the press censor is taking very good care that neither the outside world nor the enemy will hear of them.

At latest accounts Ladysmith had provisions for three months, so there is no danger that the town will be starved out. There is more to fear on this score with regard to the towns on the western frontier, but it is not at all unlikely that both Kimberley and Mafeking will be relieved in a few weeks.

The Australian colonies and New Zealand have offered to supply a second and larger contingent, and the Imperial authorities have accepted the offer. A number of volunteer regiments are being raised in England, including one 1400 strong in London by the Lord Mayor, for South Africa. Canada proposes to mobilise 5,000 men to be in readiness for South African emergencies.

After a seven weeks' visit to Singapore for the benefit of his health, the Right Rev. Dr. Gibney has returned again to Perth. He states he is now in the best of health.

The *Brisbane Age* reports the arrival from Home of the Rev Fathers O'Keefe and Doyle, who are to assist the Rev. Father Corcoran, O.S.A., in the mission at Cairns.

The Caledonian Society, ever to the front in the encouragement of athletics, have prepared a very comprehensive programme for their annual sports' meeting on New Year's Day and January 2. Among the items in the programme are walking, running, cycling, vaulting, and wood-chopping contests. These are only a few of the many attractions. The Society, according to their usual custom, are most liberal in the matter of prizes, and the result has been that a very large number of entries has been received, so that keen competition may be expected. There is no more popular sports' meeting than that of the Caledonian Society, and it is unnecessary to tell our readers that there will be no pleasanter way of spending the New Year's holidays than at the Kensington grounds. With the present prospect nothing, save the weather, will stand in the way of a record attendance.—*

That centrally situated hotel—the Excelsior—at the corner of Princes street and Dowling street, has just changed hands, having been taken over by Mr. Roderick Mackenzie, late of the Oban Hotel, Dunedin. The Excelsior is newly built, and has excellent accommodation for families, and all the appointments and sanitary arrangements, including hot, cold, and shower baths, are on the most modern and approved principles. The central position occupied by the Excelsior is one which should recommend it to the patronage of the travelling public, being in the centre of the business portion of the city, and close to the banks, post office, railway station, and wharf. Mr. Mackenzie has a well-deserved reputation as a host who looks carefully after the interests of his patrons, and we doubt not that his many friends will be pleased to extend their patronage to him in his new venture.—*

NEW CHURCH AT KAIKOURA.

THE new church recently erected at Kaikoura was blessed and opened on Sunday, December 10. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Father Walsh in the presence of a very large congregation, numbers of non-Catholics being present. The new church (says the local *Star*) is a very handsome addition to the public buildings of the township.

At the conclusion of the ceremony of blessing the church, Mass was celebrated by Father Walsh, who also preached the occasional sermon—a remarkably able and impressive discourse. The devotion of the Stations of the Cross was performed in the afternoon, and at the evening devotions the Rev. Father Walsh again preached, basing his discourse on Psalm xix., v. 46, in which the rev. preacher showed the dependence of man on God, the necessity of prayer, and the graces and blessings that flowed therefrom, especially in helping man to withstand temptation.

The music in the morning—Farmer's Mass—was exceptionally well rendered, the soloists being Mrs. Bell and Mr. Fraser. In the evening the solos were taken by Mrs. Bell, Misses M. Smith and M. Gallagher, and Mr. Fraser. Miss Hollis presided at the organ during the various services.

Though only a portion of the original design has been finished, still it has an imposing appearance, which will be materially enhanced when, in course of time, the whole is completed. The church, which is of Gothic design, is 70ft. long by 31ft. 6in. wide (outside measurements), standing 38ft. high on a massive concrete foundation. The gables are surmounted with handsome wooden crosses, each 5ft. 6in. high. Above the front door is a niche, with canopy, the statue for which (the Sacred Heart) is being procured from Home. The exterior of the church is attractively painted, in selected tints, the ground work being of warm stone colour, the projections chocolate, the sashes India red. Swing doors on either side of the porch give access to the nave of the church, which is 50ft. by 30ft. the roof being open and carried on five massive circular-bracketed principals. The sanctuary is illuminated from without by a very nice triple window of stained glass. The whole of the interior of the church, with the exception of the sacristy, is lath and plastered. The walls of the nave, sanctuary and chapels are decorated in seven tints, a dado, with a dark bank, giving the whole a very pleasing effect. This part of the work was specially directed by the Rev. Father Walsh. The high altar, which stands on a solid concrete block, is of Oamaru stone, specially selected. The bottom panel and large column are of Devonshire red marble, the smaller column of Galway grey marble. The altar, which is the gift of a member of the congregation and cost about £120, is admitted to be a fine piece of work. The two side altars (one of which was presented by another liberal member of the Church, at a cost of some £30) are very artistically decorated. The total cost of the church, with the altars, pictures, and general furnishing, is estimated at about £2000.

The church on the whole is a standing example of the piety, generosity and zeal of the Rev. Father Walsh and the Catholics of St. Michael's parish.

The offertories at the opening ceremonies amounted to very close on \$120.

A BISHOP ON TOLERANCE.

A GIPPSLAND paper published a short time ago a tirade delivered against everything Catholic by a rev. chaplain of an Orange lodge. Happening to be at the time in the district the Bishop of Sale took the opportunity, when presiding at a concert, to reply to the remarks of the firebrand chaplain. He said:—The Gospel taught them to bless those who cursed them, and to pray for those who persecute or calumniate them. This was the Gospel of charity and love; the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. His Lordship believed that he could say without fear of contradiction—and he said it for the information of those who did not belong to the Church, that is, who were not Catholics, and he asked them to accept it—that if he found out that a priest in his diocese preached against another denomination after the manner of this Orange lecturer, or who preached in any strain likely to instill into any member of his congregation ill-feeling towards the member of any sect, he would not allow that priest to appear on the altar, because he would be doing that which would be diametrically opposed to the teachings of the Catholic Church. They were told in the Holy Scriptures that they were not to bear false witness against their neighbour. That Christians are bound to believe, and anyone who brought false witness against their neighbour violated the laws of Almighty God. So he asked parents to be always prepared with good, sound, wholesome literature, because they saw that any person who calumniated them in matters of religion could be easily answered. These books parents should also put in the hands of their children. He counselled them to do good to those who differed from them in religion, to be charitable to all men, and they would thus live down the hatred and slander of those who make no account of the Divine command, which says: 'Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.' Circumstances compelled him to note the soul-destroying utterance so pronouncedly brought before them.

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

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.—*.*"

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THE BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL ON CINNAMON CURE FOR INFLUENZA.

IN its issue of 11th March last the British Medical Journal contains an interesting article by Dr Joseph Carne Ross, M.D., Edin., Physician to Ancoats Hospital, Manchester, on Influenza and its successful treatment by the CINNAMON CURE.

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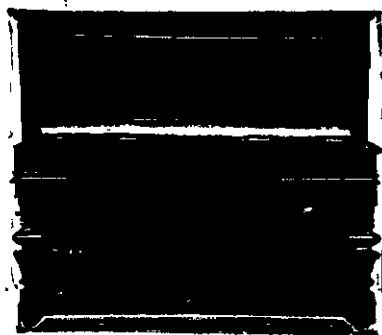
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The Storyteller.

THE SINGER'S CHILD.

CHAPTER III.

One day about eight months after the conversation recorded above the Rev. Mother was met by Sister Angela, who handed her a newspaper, which she said Mrs Griffith had sent over as it contained 'something that reminded her of Rosie.'

'I wonder what it can be about,' said the elder nun. 'Poor Rosie! I am so glad she is to have an opening at last. It was uphill work all along, but Herr Scheren is indomitable, and now she is to sing to a real London audience. There is no doubt but that she will be a success—if she is not too nervous. We must pray that she may have courage to-night, Sister.'

'We need not fear for her, Mother. She has been so good and brave under disappointments that surely she won't break down at the first bid for fame. In her letter this morning she seems quite courageous over it. See, she has marked the paragraph. I shall read it aloud.'

The following is what she read :

'Our readers are already acquainted with the pathetic and romantic story of Major Denison—how seventeen years since he was one of an expedition sent to subdue a rebellious tribe in Central Africa—how his party had a disastrous engagement with a large number of the Maghidi—how he was left for dead on the field by his comrades—how he was not dead but only severely wounded, and, being found by the Maghidi, was by them nursed back to health, only to be kept in chains till two months ago, when he was discovered and liberated by some English soldiers who had penetrated into that distant territory. The public press has been full of the affair, yet the saddest part of it yet remains to be told.'

'Seventeen years ago, Major Denison, though heir to his uncle's large estate in Wales—of which, by the way, he has now entered into possession—had nothing but his pay to live on. Yet two years previously he had married the beautiful but penniless daughter of a brother officer, Captain Langton—a proceeding which very much incensed his uncle against him.'

'However, the young couple managed to live on their slender income. After a year a daughter was born to them. She was called Rose Agatha. Soon after this event Mrs. Denison's father died, and besides him she had no blood relations. A year later her husband's regiment was ordered to Africa. He wrote her encouraging letters during the two months before he fell into the hands of the Maghidi. We can imagine her state of mind on reading her husband's name in the list of the killed. What became of her afterwards? No one knows. Since his return to England Major Denison has instituted all possible inquiries as to the whereabouts of his wife and child, but no trace of them can be discovered. The owner of the house in which Mrs. Denison lodged up to the time of the official announcement of his death is still alive, but she has no idea where the lady went. She remembers well her passionate sorrow on receiving the sad news. She left the house about a week later, and has never since been heard of.'

'As Mrs. Denison was quite young at the time and perfectly healthy, it was but natural for her husband to expect that she would be still alive, and that their daughter, who would be now about nineteen, should also still be living. Yet advertising and extensive inquiries have failed in bringing anything to light. He had more than once heard her say in jest that if anything happened to him she would try to make a living on the stage, for she possessed a charming and carefully trained contralto voice. It is his conviction that she had put that project into execution, and he is interviewing theatrical managers and others with the idea of getting some clue of her whereabouts. All in vain, however, up to the present; yet he does not despair of ultimate success, for probably Mrs. Denison would have taken an assumed name.'

'If she lives it is strange that she has not lighted on some account of her husband's almost miraculous return, for the newspapers have been full of the wonderful event. Certainly we think Major Denison may be assured of the sympathy of the public. After many years of bondage and suffering he has returned to his native land, only to find those whom he yearned for gone, perhaps dead. His family estates, which for several years have been in the possession of a more distant heir, are now surrendered to him, but wife and daughter are not there to share them with him. We sincerely hope his efforts will be eventually crowned with success—a hope in which we are confident all true men and women will join.'

'Mother,' cried Sister Agatha, pale with excitement, 'could it be that this Major Denison is Rosie's father? But he is! Don't you remember the mark on her clothes, "Rosie D."?''

'Yes,' answered the Rev. Mother with conviction. 'It certainly looks quite probable; but we must not be too hasty. There is one strong proof, however—the miniature in Rosie's locket, which can only be that of her father. If the paper had only published a portrait of him.'

'Yes, but you forget how changed he must be after such a lapse of time. It does not give his Christian name, Mother? "From Harry to Isabel" was engraved on the locket, you know.'

'No, what a pity. But that's another of our proofs, Sister, and another still in the event of his wife's name being Isabel. And Mrs. Griffith would be able to confirm or otherwise his description of her appearance.'

'What do you intend doing, Mother? Will you write to him and send him to Rosie?'

'I don't think that would be wise, for Rosie's sake at least. It might upset her now, at the beginning of what promises to be a

brilliant career. But I shall write to say I may be able to tell him something of his wife and child if he gives me his own and his wife's Christian names and inquiring if he had ever given her a locket containing a portrait of himself. If he answers satisfactorily I shall give him Rosie's address.'

CHAPTER IV.

In a private sitting-room in the G— Hotel two men were seated.

It was a tender evening in April, and the warm sunshine streamed into the apartment, lighting up clearly the features of its occupants. The face of the elder—or apparently elder—man was good to look on, for it was a noble one. A pair of flashing, dark eyes, which for all their gleaming had a touch of intense gravity in their depths, illumined a strong, manly face, to which a finely-cut mouth, though concealed in part by a grey beard and moustache, gave an air of additional strength. The skin, tanned to a deep brown, spoke of long residence in a southern clime. A man of tall and powerful build, yet he struck one as being prematurely aged.

His companion had an unmistakable military cut, and looked some years younger.

'I'll tell you what, Denison,' the latter remarked after some moments of silence, 'you are wearing yourself out over this business. It would be just as well to let it rest for a little while. Here you are, and since you touched English soil you haven't given yourself a moment's relaxation.'

'Relaxation!' repeated the Major. 'I must do my duty first. If I could even be sure that Isabel and the child were dead it would be better than this suspense.'

'Yes, but these detectives will unearth it all sooner or later, and there is no earthly reason why you must spend all your time and energy on it too. Tell you what, as a new thought struck him, 'just come with me to the L— Hall to-night. There's to be a high-class concert, and a debutante who is said to have a wonderful voice. You can't have lost all your old love for music.'

'No, I have not lost it, Meredith, though I had little opportunity of indulging it among the Maghidi, unless their battle songs could be called music—with a grim smile. 'But I thought of calling on Ferrer this evening to see if he has got any clue.'

'If he had he would let you know quick enough. So you've just got to come with me; there's no getting out of it.'

Major Denison smiled resignedly.

'Well, if you're so bent on hauling me off, I suppose I must go, so that settles it.'

'That's right,' rejoined Colonel Meredith, as he rose and took up his hat. 'Well, I have to dine at the club. I shall call round for you at eight.'

'Very well. I shall be ready then.'

Major Denison was as good as his word. His friend found him waiting for him at the appointed hour. It was merely to please the Colonel that he had consented to go to the entertainment, and not from any pleasure he expected to derive from it, though possibly the music might have the effect of diverting his mind from his troubles. Yet the moment he entered the hall a strange exhilaration filled him and his spirits rose so high that he marvelled at himself. All his senses were possessed by a vague feeling of expectancy for which he could in no wise account. They had chanced on good places, near the stage yet with a view of the hall. It was with unwonted interest the Major looked at his surroundings. He noticed that the audience was a large and fashionable one.

But presently the orchestra commenced playing and he gave his whole attention to listening. He fell into a rapt and dreamy mood, drinking in to the full the long-unknown pleasure of music. In a dim way he was conscious that someone was playing a prelude on the piano. All at once the clear flute-like notes of a girl's voice fell on his ears. He closed his eyes the better to enjoy the song—an old English melody well known to him in his younger days. It brought back tender memories of his youth. And the voice, was it familiar too? Where in the by-gone years had he heard just such notes as these? He must look at the singer presently, he told himself; she had three or four verses to sing yet. He must enjoy them to the utmost, then he would pick out her name on the programme and fix her face on his mind.

But he was rudely awakened from his spell of luxurious lethargy by a nudge and a quick exclamation from Meredith:

'I say, Denison, do look at that girl. She is your living image.'

'What girl? Where?' questioned the Major, blinking his eyes to accustom them to the electric light.

'Why, the singer, of course. I never saw such a striking resemblance. The girl is surely your daughter.'

Major Denison started violently, and then gazed with eager eyes at the girlish figure on the stage a few yards before him.

Clothed in some clinging white material, her lovely dark face illumined by the elated look which the knowledge of success alone can bring, can this beautiful, stately girl be our old friend Rosie? Yes, fame has come to her at last. She realises it with a throb of delight as, her song ended, the whole house bursts into a storm of applause. The stage is literally covered with flowers, and cries of 'encore' ring from every part of the hall. She sees she must give it, so bowing low she begins a lively Irish ballad.

All her nervousness has vanished with the fear of failure. Her eyes are dancing with delight, and she ventures to look at the audience for the first time.

Her gaze falls on the face of a man seated just beneath her, and rests there. His eyes, strained and eager, catch hers and hold them as if by magnetism.

A feeling of vague bewilderment seizes the girl which makes it impossible for her to withdraw her eyes. Mechanically she sings on to the last verse, her gaze still locked, as it were, in that of the man.

More plaudits, more flowers, yet she heeds nothing but those strangely familiar eyes. Suddenly her mind flashes to her father's portrait in the locket. Ah, that is the face she is so strongly reminded of! Great God, how like! Can it be? But the intensity of the thought chases the blood from her face, leaving it white as marble.

Bowing to the loud-applauding house she disappears swiftly behind the stage.

'Come, Meredith,' excitedly whispered Major Denison; 'I must see that girl at once.'

Meredith got up, and the two men made their way out of the hall. The concert was but half over, and their departure excited some notice.

Outside the door the Major paused.

'Her name?' he asked anxiously. 'I forgot to look at the programme.'

'It is Miss Rose Vestris. It may not be her real name, you know.'

'Rose—did you say Rose? Why, that was the child's name, Rose Agatha. Come quickly, Meredith, I feel it is she.'

Hastily they crossed to the back of the building. The attendant shook her head when they inquired for Miss Vestris.

'Miss Vestris was ill, but she would take up their cards.'

In a few minutes she returned saying Miss Vestris would see them in the manager's room.

Rosie, still in her white dress, was seated in a low chair when the two gentlemen entered. With a visible effort she rose and bowed.

Her pale face wore an anxious look as she waited for them to speak.

But Major Denison suddenly felt the delicacy of his task. It was not so easy a matter as he had thought to question a girl whom he had never met before as to her parentage, and his friend felt equally uncomfortable.

However, the Major at last mustered up courage.

'I crave your pardon, Miss Vestris, for thus intruding on you, but I feel compelled to put to you a few questions which I am sure you will answer frankly when I make myself known to you. I am the Major Denison who has figured so conspicuously in the papers lately.'

'Yes?' said Rosie inquiringly. She was trembling now. The thought that had been lurking doubtfully in her mind became at these words almost a conviction. Weak with emotion she sank into her chair.

'You know,' continued the Major, 'that I am trying to find my wife and daughter. Your voice is startlingly like my wife's, and Colonel Meredith says, and I cannot help agreeing with him, that you bear a striking resemblance to myself. We may be only jumping at wrong conclusions, of course, but you can set us right at once. Is Rose Vestris your real name?'

The girl was so agitated that for a moment she could not speak.

'I don't know,' she said at length in a tremulous voice, 'but I have never known another.'

'But you are not sure about it. You have a doubt as to its reality?'

Rosie paused; then said quietly:

'I will tell you how it is. My mother died when I was but a tiny child. Her name was Madame Vestris. I sometimes doubt that the name was her real one. I know of no relative—no friend even of my parents. But oh!'—with a sudden change of manner—'if you think I am your child—and I feel I am!—did you ever see this?' and with swift fingers she drew forth from her dress the locket which had been her mother's.

At sight of it he uttered an exclamation of recognition.

'Why, it is the locket I gave Isabel before our marriage.'

'Isabel!' repeated Rosie. 'And your name, sir?' she asked excitedly.

'Henry. "From Harry to Isabel" was inscribed on the back, and inside—'

'Is your photograph,' she said slowly, disclosing the miniature. 'How like,' cried Colonel Meredith. 'Denison, you have found your daughter.'

'Thank God,' said Denison reverently, as he folded the weeping Rosie to his breast and imparted a kiss on her brow.

'But the bitter is mingled with the sweet,' Major Denison said after a short silence, during which father and daughter gazed on each other with loving eyes. 'I had hoped to find my Isabel also. Child, tell me of her and of your own life. My poor little one,' he added, tenderly stroking the dark hair, 'without a single friend, what must your lot have been?'

The three sat down, and, her hand clasped in her father's, Rosie related the circumstances of her mother's death, as she had been told by the nuns and Mrs. Griffith. Her father was deeply shocked; his tears flowed unrestrainedly. Colonel Meredith was astonished to hear that the unfortunate singer whose sad end had so attracted his notice at the time was none other than the wife of his friend. If he had only known it the child would not have been friendless all these years.

Then Rosie told the simple story of her own life—how the nuns had adopted and educated her—how Rev. Mother had carefully kept everything which had belonged to her mother that might be a help in discovering her relative—how she had now at her lodgings the packet of letters and her own little garments marked 'Rosie D.'

'Rosie Denison, as I know now,' she concluded happily.

At this point the manager looked in, but seeing the room still occupied he told them not to disturb themselves, as he would leave orders with the porter not to lock the doors till they left.

'Oh, don't trouble yourself, sir,' said the Major, rising. 'We are going now, Meredith. Will you call a cab?'

'But I haven't yet changed my dress,' exclaimed Rosie. 'Well, what matter, I can put on my cloak over it.'

Meredith had the cab in waiting for them. At the Major's request he accompanied them to Rosie's lodgings. Half an hour later, with a grateful yet aching heart, Major Denison was looking at the packet of letters penned by himself nearly 18 years before. The chain of proofs seemed complete as it was, yet the morning's post, in the shape of the Rev. Mother's letter, added still stronger links. She little thought that Rosie would have found her father before that letter reached him.

CHAPTER V.

Major Denison had no trouble in proving legally—for on account of his estates such proof was necessary—that Rosie was his daughter.

The public grew enthusiastic when told that the young singer who had made such a hit on her first appearance had turned out to be the child so earnestly sought for.

Here was a romance in real life at last. Hundreds of sentimental maidens envied Rosie her good fortune, and wished that they had soldier fathers come back from the savages to find them grown into beautiful, dark-eyed sirens, with bewitching voices, and to take them away to a picturesque Welsh mansion, there to live as its mistress.

In spite of the laudatory comments which her beauty and her voice excited, Rosie was very humble under her changed fortunes, very happy too, as the Rev. Mother and Sister Angela knew, for from them she kept back nothing.

They knew that she was only too glad to give up the life of a professional singer, notwithstanding the brilliant future which seemed in store for her. She never had any real liking for the life, but Herr Scheren's persuasions, and the necessity she was under of earning a livelihood, had pointed it out as the one for which nature had best fitted her. And now she had given it all up with a light heart, though Herr Scheren's disappointment pained her not a little.

Poor man! It was a great blow to him, yet not without its consolations, for he had shared in Rosie's renown, and as the master who had trained her he had received much favourable notice in the Press, a fact which had determined him to settle down in London and 'take the ball at the hop,' to use a common phrase, and, I may add, that he had never reason to regret this change.

Rosie took kindly to her new situation. She learned to love her father tenderly, while his affection for her was apparent in every look and tone. Deprived of love during the best part of his manhood he seemed to live on it entirely now.

It was but natural that Rosie should have many suitors for her hand—she was a beautiful heiress—but none succeeded in touching her heart. Sometimes she wondered at this herself, and one day it flashed on her that she had no heart to give—that it was in her old home in the keeping of St. Angela for One who would some day claim it. This conviction grew on her daily. Her father noticed her new-born gravity and gently inquired its cause. Hesitatingly she told him. His face blanched as he listened, and a look of intense sadness crept into his eyes. But he was a true Catholic, and bade her go and find out God's Will. So she bared her heart to God's minister, who clearly saw that to her was given the special grace of a call to the religious life.

And she had thought that she would never be a nun! But that was before she had been tried—when there would have been no sacrifice to make. Now she had to sacrifice her father. Her poor father! How should she leave him? Then she pictured to herself the delight of Rev. Mother when she should hear the news.

To Major Denison it was sorrowful news, but he bore it like a Christian and a soldier. The sacrifice which God demanded he made with fortitude, nor thought Him hard to take away what He had so lately given. He often visits the convent, which is now in very truth his daughter's home, and when at Benediction he hears her glorious voice fill the chapel he feels that God has been good to him, and with a grateful heart inwardly joins in the 'Laudate.'—*Catholic Fireside*.

CURIOUS OLD CUSTOM.

IN Belfast there was until quite recently a curious old custom dating from quite two centuries ago. In the town there are two halls for selling linen, one of which is now used as offices, etc. This one is the Linen Hall proper, or White Linen Hall, in which the linen used to be sold unbleached, while bleached linen was sent to the former. A very long time ago some patriotic man endowed this Brown Linen Hall, so that it cannot be sold; and it was stipulated that a market was to be held every Friday. But when companies took up selling the linen, no one came to the old hall, so that it is now no longer of any use. Regularly, however, every Friday morning an old man opened the gates and put a single bale of unbleached linen up to auction. It was always the same old man, the linen was always the same bale, the time always the same, but no one ever came to buy, and very few people knew about it.

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.—"N."

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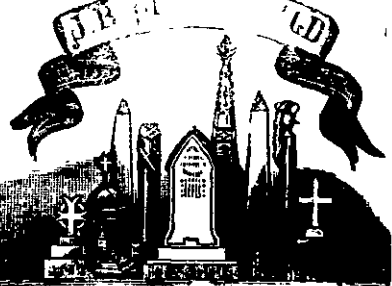
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SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS.

MARIST BROTHERS' SCHOOL, WELLINGTON.

(From our own correspondent).

THE annual distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Marist Brothers' School, Wellington, took place in the Exchange Hall. His Grace Archbishop Redwood presided. The dramatic club in connection with the Old Boys' Association provided an entertainment consisting of the comedy 'Snowball,' in which the following took part:—Miss Sullivan, Messrs. R. Kelly, Reid, A. McDonald, T. Walshe, A. McGregor, and T. Marshall. Two choruses, 'Merry sunshine' and 'Pulaski,' were sung by the boys of the school.

Rev. Brother Mark thanked all present for their patronage, and reported that the year just concluded had been for the school a most successful and encouraging one.

Archbishop Redwood, who was greeted with cheers, complimented the Brothers and pupils on the report which Brother Mark had just given. The result of the Catholic schools' examination by the Government Inspector was one of which all well-wishers of a true education of our youth should feel proud, and showed that in Wellington, as in other parts of the Colony, the Catholic schools, besides imparting a thorough knowledge of our holy religion, were at least holding their own with Government institutions in the matter of secular education.

The following is the prize list:—

Standard VII.—Conduct, Duncan McMurrich; proficiency, D. McMurrich, L. Leydon, J. Tracy; Christian doctrine, Leo Leydon; mathematics (special), Duncan McMurrich; arithmetic, John McKeown 1, J. Butler 2; Euclid, James Tracy 1, Charles Smith 2; algebra, John McKeown; mapping and drawing, James Clements; English history, Thos. Connolly; English composition, Leo Leydon 1, Denis Duggan 2; English grammar and analysis, James Butler; writing, Thomas Power; reading, Harold Rees; geography, Edward Mulhane 1, C. Smith 2; recitation, James Clements; spelling and dictation, Thomas Paul; diligence, Ambrose Seaward.

Standard VI.—Proficiency, Charles Casey 1, Herbert Swan 2, John O'Connor 3; Christian doctrine, Michael McWilliams; reading, John O'Connor 1, Marius Sheridan 2; writing, Edward Walsh, J. Ryan; arithmetic, Charles Casey 1, Roger Outtrim 2; mental arithmetic, Cornelius Outtrim; English grammar, John O'Connor; English composition, Herbert Swan; English history, Charles McGrath; geography, Thomas Boyce; drawing and mapping, Dugald Henderson; home exercise, Stanislaus Whitaker; diligence, Michael Ryan.

Standards V. and IV.—Good conduct, Louis Vincent; Christian doctrine, Joseph Gosling; proficiency, J. McCarthy and E. Casey 1,

B. Leydon and R. Gosling 2, G. McMenamin and T. O'Connor 3; reading, Jno. McMahon, H. McArdle; writing, Jno. Hayes, L. O'Sullivan; arithmetic, F. Spurway, R. Lavery; geography, F. Thompson, J. Corich; spelling, L. Martin, C. McKenzie; drawing, E. Healy, J. Gallagher; composition, G. Smith, G. Leydon; grammar, C. Leary, John Duggan; history, J. Galvin, M. Stratford; mental arithmetic, E. Hopkins, W. McMenamin; recitation, J. Elliot, J. Fernandes; singing, C. McDonald, J. Flanagan.

Standard III.—Conduct, Francis Eller; proficiency, K. McGrath 1, J. McKeegan 2, R. Fahy 3; Christian doctrine, Thomas Davis; reading, Joseph Byrne; spelling and dictation, Albert Leary; writing, George Tobin; geography, Neil McMurrich; English grammar, Patrick O'Donovan; English composition, John Noon; mapping, Eric Cimino; arithmetic, Oliver Weight; drawing, Bernard Whitaker; mental arithmetic, Richard Davis; recitation, James Walsh; diligence, Patrick Kenny.

Standard II.—Catechism, Patrick Galvin 1, Harold Stevenson 2; good conduct, John Gosling; general proficiency, Joseph Stratford; reading, Joseph Devlin 1, John Gosling 2; writing, Vincent Mason 1, David Cashman 2; arithmetic, David Cashman; orthography, Joseph Devlin 1, Joseph Stratford 2; geography, Cornelius O'Connor; home-work, Vincent Mason; drawing, Cornelius Carmody.

First Class—Good conduct, William White; catechism, Francis Galvin; Francis Levett, Patrick Twomey, Jeremiah McLaughlin; reading, Michael Stevens, George Hegarty, Joseph Coleman, Augustine Levett; writing, Damien Healy, Lionel Donovan, John Burke, Robert Nolan; arithmetic, Calile Khouri, Michael Bouzaid, Louis Neary, Leo Kay; orthography, George Walker, John Bonashio, Thomas O'Neill, John McGuire; mental arithmetic, Francis Brown, Geoffrey Hill, Charles Haughey, Leo Murphy, Edward Burke; proficiency, Percy Cashman.

Preparatory—Good conduct, Joseph Kenny; catechism, James Smith; reading, Francis Leary; writing, John Devlin, Thomas Gosling; tables, Roland Edge; orthography, Frederick France.

Infants—Good conduct, John O'Donald, William Edmonds; reading, Thomas Devine, Charles Tandy, Hilmore Johnson; writing, John Whitman, P. Murphy, Bernard Benson; tables, Robert Kenny.

SACRED HEART HIGH SCHOOL, CHRISTCHURCH.

(From our own correspondent.)

On Thursday afternoon, December 14, his Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. Grimes distributed the prizes to the pupils of the Sacred Heart Convent High School, conducted by the Sisters of the Mission. There was a very large gathering present

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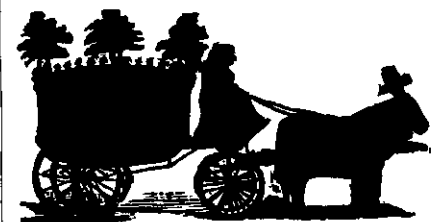
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Two of Alcock's best Billiard Tables.

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WE have during the past year spared no expense in endeavouring to make our Beer second to none in New Zealand, and can now confidently assert we have succeeded in doing so.

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including the Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais, V.G., and the Rev. Fathers Marnane, Crotty, and Richards. Prior to the distribution of the prizes an excellent entertainment, consisting of a high class concert and a cantata, was given by the pupils, who acquitted themselves admirably, reflecting credit on themselves and on their painstaking and devoted teachers. The music was of exceptional merit, Gounod's 'Ave Maria,' on two violins, harp, organ, and piano, being a particularly fine contribution. A pleasing departure from the accustomed 'drama' was the substitution of a very pretty cantata, entitled 'The Flower Queen,' in which the young people seemed to fairly revel, singing and acting in a manner which showed they had been very carefully instructed. The scenery and dresses were very pretty.

After the prize list was read by the Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais, his Lordship the Bishop, addressing the children and assembled guests, said it was pleasing and gratifying to him to preside once again at the annual prize distribution of the ably conducted convent schools. Last year and the year before he was of course absent. He eulogised the musical performance of the pupils, and congratulated the Sisters on the very favourable report of the school inspector, mentioning incidentally the fact of a member of the Education Board, and now of the House of Representatives, paying a surprise visit to the Convent school, when he was in turn surprised at the wide scope of the teaching, and confessing that prior to his visit he was impressed with the idea that besides religion little else was taught. Many, said his Lordship, outside the Church knew and appreciated the thorough training imparted by the Sisters, and this accounted for the numbers who sent their children to be educated at the Convent schools. He congratulated the children on their successful studies, the parents on having such devoted and highly trained teachers in their midst, concluding by wishing each and every one all the joys and gladness of the approaching festive season.

A visit to the art and fancy work departments revealed a splendid display of exhibits comprising paintings in oils and water colours, pen and pencil work, crayon drawings, most natural-looking fruit and flowers fashioned in wax, etc. The various exhibits showed a distinct advance on former years, a noticeable feature being the number of native subjects treated in oils and water colours, the southern lake scenery coming in for a large share of attention. This section owes much of its success to the present talented instructor. The plain sewing, fancy work, and lace manufacture, showed much taste, diligence, and industry, the articles made by the Kindergarten pupils being exceptionally good and most favourably commented upon by all present.

The following is the prize list:—

Good Conduct.—Mabel Morkane and Viola Montague. Next in merit: Katie Gallagher, Amy Hatfield, Agnes Ryan, Eva Brooking, May Byrne, and Eva Kennett. Kindergarten School—Miss Myrtle Rogers.

Christian Doctrine.—Katie Gallagher, Agnes Ryan, Mary O'Callaghan, Mabel Morkane, Lily Donohue.

Diligence.—Katie Gallagher, Agnes Ryan, Viola Montague, May Byrne, May O'Halloran, Maggie Coakley, Mary Scully, Lily Donohue, Eva Kennett, Vernie Young, May Gardiner.

Grammar.—Matriculation Class—Katie Gallagher and Katie Bourke. Civil Service Class—Viola Montague, Agnes Ryan, Essie McGee. Standard VII.—Katie Picken and Ada Hatfield. Standard VI.—Katie Jones and Katie Poff. Standard V.—Madge O'Malley and Mary O'Callaghan. Standard IV.—Eva Kennett, Lily Donohue, and Norrie O'Malley. Standard III.—Madge Donohue and Louie Collins.

Composition.—Matriculation Class—Katie Gallagher and Katie Bourke. Civil Service Class—Agnes Ryan, Viola Montague, Lisette Peppier. Standard VII.—Mabel Morkane, Katie Picken, and May Byrne. Standard VI.—May O'Halloran, Sabina Mullins, and Emma Lieske. Standard V.—Mary O'Connor, Katie Mahoney, and Maggie Coakley. Standard IV.—Vernie Young and Elsie Perkins. Standard III.—Josephine Geoghegan and Madge Donohue.

Reading and Recitation.—Standard VII.—Mabel Morkane. Standard VI.—Katie Poff and Amy Hatfield. Standard V.—Annie Bond and Josephine Stratz. Standard IV.—May Gardiner and Elsie Perkins. Standard III.—Madge Donohue, Violet Hall, and Winnie Harrington.

Geography and Mapping.—Matriculation Class—Katie Gallagher, Katie Bourke, and Marion Picken. Civil Service—Viola Montague, Agnes Ryan, and Lisette Peppier. Standard VII.—May Byrne, Amy Hatfield, and Eva Brooking. Standard VI.—Amy Hatfield and Emma Lieske. Standard V.—Maggie Coakley and Mary Scully. Standard IV.—Elsie Perkin, May Gardiner, and Maud

Begg. Standard III.—Louie Collins, Madge Donohue, Winnie and Mabel Harrington.

Arithmetic.—Matriculation Class—May Byrne, Katie Gallagher, and Marion Picken. Civil Service—Agnes Ryan, Essie McGee, and Viola Montague. Standard VII.—May Byrne, Katie Picken, and Eva Brooking. Standard VI.—Katie Poff and Emma Lieske. Standard V.—Maggie Coakley, Madge O'Malley, and Mary O'Callaghan. Standard IV.—Lily Donohue, Vernie Young, and Francis Evans. Standard III.—Madge Donohue, Louie Collins, Helena Scully.

Algebra.—Matriculation Class—Katie Gallagher, Marion Picken, and Katie Bourke. Civil Service—Viola Montague, Agnes Ryan, Essie McGee, and Lisette Peppier. Standard VII.—May Byrne, Katie Picken, and May Irvine.

Euclid.—Matriculation Class—Katie Gallagher and Katie Bourke. Standard VII.—May O'Halloran and Ada Hatfield.

History.—Matriculation Class—Katie Gallagher and Katie Bourke. Civil Service—Agnes Ryan and Viola Montague. Standard VII.—May Byrne, Amy Hatfield, Mabel Morkane, and Jessie Mace. Standard VI.—Amy Hatfield and Minnie Donohue. Standard V.—Mary Scully and Mary O'Connor. Standard IV.—Teresa McGee, Lily Donohue, and Maud Begg. Standard III.—Nina Collins and Mabel Harrington.

Elementary Drawing.—Standard VI.—Emma Lieske. Standard V.—Delia Burke. Standard IV.—Francis Evans. Standard III.—Lily Kenneth and Helena Scully.

Singing.—Prizes awarded to Katie Picken, Katie Bourke, Katie Gallagher, Marion Brooking, Marion Picken, Agnes Ryan, Madge O'Malley, Ada Hatfield, and Mary O'Connor.

Music.—Piano—Katie Picken and Maggie Coakley. Violin—Marion Picken, Madge O'Malley, Mary O'Connor, and Sabina Mullin.

Sewing.—Prizes awarded to May Bayliff, Katie Gill, Madge O'Malley, Maggie Coakley, Elsie Perkin, May Gardiner, Lily Donohue, and Gertie Mullin.

Fancy Work.—Prizes awarded to Nellie Guiney, Mary O'Boyle, Ada Hatfield, Sabina Mullin, Eva Brooking, Elsie Perkin, Louie Collins, and Josephine Geoghegan.

Painting.—Oils—Prizes awarded to Misses Dawe, Guiney, and Katie Picken. Water colours—Prizes awarded to Misses Dawe, Brooking, and Hatfield.

Book-keeping.—Prizes awarded to Katie Picken and Ada Hatfield.

Artificial Flowers and Fruit-making.—Prizes awarded to Ada Hatfield and Mabel Morkane.

SACRED HEART PARISH SCHOOL.

His Lordship the Bishop distributed the prizes to the children of the parish school, conducted by the Sisters of the Mission, on December 16. Prior to the distribution, the children gave an entertainment, consisting of vocal and musical selections, and a drama entitled 'The value of Truth.'

The following is the prize list:—

Good Conduct (to be drawn for).—Amelia Gregory, Cissie Cassidy, and Augusta Burke.

Diligence (to be drawn for).—Rose Hynes, Maggie O'Malley, Mary Murphy, Lizzie Teahan, Amelia Gregory, Monica Moyna, Cissie Cassidy, Mary Duggan, Bridget Vaughan.

Standard V.—Maggie O'Malley, Rose Hynes, Agnes Nelson, Mary Murphy, Teresa Fitzgerald, Lizzie Teahan, Mary O'Brien, Nellie O'Brien, Louie Grant, Amelia Gregory.

Standard IV.—Maggie Tasker, Lizzie Murphy, Monica Moyna, Mary Nolan, Bridget Vaughan, Lily Hirst, Katie Donnell, Augusta Smith, Maggie Power, Cissie Cassidy, Mary Duggan, Norah O'Malley.

Standard III.—Minnie Pender, Cecilia O'Connor, Katie Tasker, Winnie Nelson, Ruth Fanning, Katie Granger, Katie Birmingham, Josephine Rielly, Josephine McSwiggan, Nellie Donnell, Nellie Commons, Annie Bennet, Priscilla McIntyre, Nellie Walls, Ethel Greevey.

ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL.

His Lordship Bishop Grimes presided at the distribution of prizes at St. Mary's High School, Colombo street, Christchurch, conducted by the Sisters of Mercy, when the pupils gave an entertainment, consisting of recitations, vocal and instrumental items, and a four-act drama entitled 'Queen Mab.' The following is the prize list:—

DUNEDIN WOOL SALES, 1899-1900.

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FINANCIAL & STATION AGENTS.

TO THE WOOL GROWERS OF OTAGO.

GENTLEMEN,—Another Wool Season being upon us, some of the early Clips having already come to hand, we take the opportunity to again tender our best services to Wool Growers, for the disposal of their Wool here or for shipment of same to London or other markets.

CONGRATULATORY.

We are pleased on this occasion to be able to congratulate our numerous friends and Wool Growers generally on the cheering prospects for the season's sales. It is a long lane that has no turning, and after long and weary years of abnormally low prices we may reasonably hope for the continuance of better prices for some time to come.

SHOW ROOM.

We would remind Wool Growers that our Stores offer unequalled advantages for exhibiting and selling wool, and for expeditious handling of same.

Our Show Room being fully equipped with all the latest improvements, conveniently situated and specially lighted for the proper display of the wools, buyers are placed in a position to value to the best advantage and to operate with such confidence as must ensure a satisfactory sale, to which no end will be spared on our part.

VALUATIONS.

We make careful examination of every lot (large or small) prior to sale, and as every department of the business is conducted under our personal supervision, consignors may rest assured that no lot will be sold below its full market value and that their interests generally will be thoroughly protected.

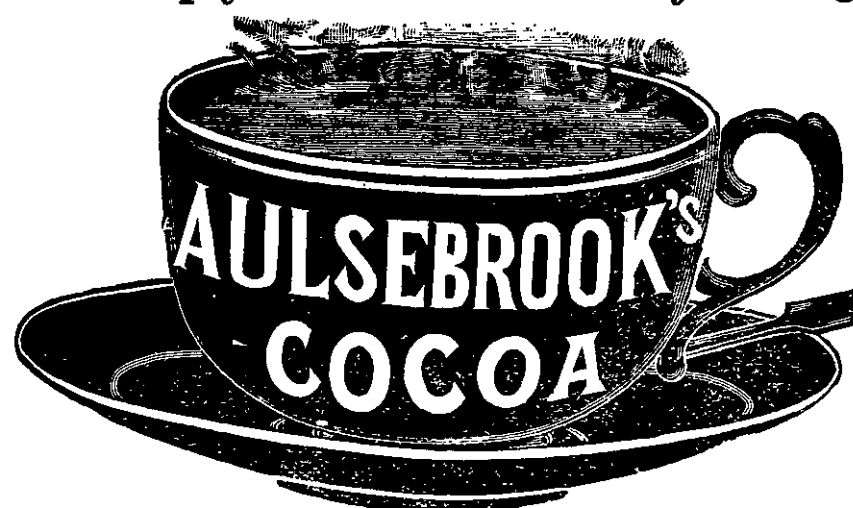
Our First Sale will be held on THURSDAY, 21st December, 1899
Second Sale will be held on FRIDAY, 12th January, 1900
Third Sale will be held on FRIDAY, 2nd February, 1900
Fourth Sale will be held on THURSDAY, 22nd February, 1900

CHARGES AND ACCOUNT SALES.

All Charges throughout will be made on the very lowest scale. Accounts will be rendered and proceeds paid over promptly within six days of sale as heretofore.

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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 Surfers apply Dunedin Office THOMSON AND CO., Office: Dunedin.

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HAYDOCK'S NEW LIVER PILLS

A wonderful and extraordinary combination of concentrated medicine. The Victorians 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 Drug-gists.

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.

HAYDOCK & CO.,
NEW YORK, U.S.A.

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

KEMPTHORNE, PROSSER & CO.,
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Prayer Book and Catechism bound in one, 1s. 2d. By post, 1s. 5d.

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Rev. Edmund Hill, C.P.: "Per Mariam."

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Having purchased the freehold of the above popular and centrally-situated Hotel, and having considerably added to and improved the accommodation, the Proprietor hopes, by strict attention to the requirements of his customers, to obtain a fair share of support. Tourists, Travellers, and Boarders will find all the comforts of a home. Suites of Rooms for Families. Charges strictly Moderate.

A Special Feature: 1s LUNCHEON from 12 to 2 o'clock.
Hot, Cold, and Shower²Baths. The very best of Wines, Ales, and Spirits supplied. A Night Porter in attendance.

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Accommodation for over 100 guests.

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MALTSTERS AND BREWERS,

CITY BREWERY, DUNEDIN.



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

Try "KUKOS" Tea, which POSSESSES all these qualities

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I've a secret in my heart

You must hear—

A tale I would impart—

Please draw near.

Every foot that's warmly clad

Makes the wearer's heart feel glad,

And that footwear may be had

At LOFT & CO'S.

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Where the busy throng is passing

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Splendid Bargains there appear—

You'll be suited, never fear,

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If you are anxious 'bout the War, TRY A "WELLINGTON."

If you don't turn up till night, TRY A "BLUCHER."

When the winter draweth nigh
unto thee,

And the rain clouds cross the
sky, gloo-mi-ly,

Then the Boot that's Watertight
Makes its owner feel all right!

We keep them strong and light—

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SPLENDID GUM BOOTS, 21s.

The Largest Equerry in New Zealand.

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CYCLERY.—The latest convenience of the age. Bicycles Stored
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 Good Conduct.—Monica Flood.
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 Arithmetic.—Monica Flood, Hilda Flynn, Alice Nelson, Gertie Cassin, Hugh Perkins, Basil Haskins, Bertie Wood.
 Geography.—Monica Flood, Hilda Sharman, Stella Murray, Alice Nelson, Aileen Gray, Queenie Hulston, Charles Perkins, Carl Plummer.
 History.—Lizzie Joyce, Louis Loughnan, Hugh Perkins.
 Reading and Recitation.—Alice McGill, Maud Cassin, Nellie Turner, Grace Plummer, Muriel Simpson, May Wood, Louis Loughnan, Willie Goode.
 Grammar and Composition.—Alice McGill, Nellie Turner.
 Writing.—Lillian Simpson, Lucy Fleming, Frances Flynn, Grace Plummer, Albert Orchard, Bernard Murray.
 Drawing.—Freeland.—Lizzie Joyce, Hilda Sharman, Stella Murray, Kathleen Gray.
 Spelling.—Kathleen Ward, Harvey Clarkson, Nettie Cronin.
 Music.—Theoretical.—Nellie Turner. Vocal.—Alice McGill.
 Needlework.—Aileen Lonargan, Hilda Sharman, Dulcie Deamer, Doffie Deamer.
 French.—Monica Flood.
 Shorthand and Typewriting.—Aileen Lonargan.

NEW ZEALAND RAILWAYS.

NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS, 1900.

The following ALTERATIONS in and ADDITIONS to the Ordinary Time Table will be made in connection with the New Year Holidays:—

SATURDAY, 30th DECEMBER.

An Excursion Train will leave Dunedin for Christchurch at 10.35 p.m., Waitati 11.33 p.m., Seaclyff 11.57 p.m., Waikouaiti 12.18 a.m., Palmerston 12.45 a.m., Hampden 1.28 a.m., Maheno 2.3 a.m., Oamaru 2.35 a.m., arriving at Christchurch 8.50 a.m. on 31st December. This train will stop at Upper Port Chalmers, Papanui, Waitati, Warrington, Seaclyff, Puketeraki, Waikouaiti, Palmerston, Hillgrove, Hampden, Herbert, and Maheno, also at any station where required North of Oamaru to allow passengers to alight.

A Special Train will leave Dunedin for Invercargill and intermediate stations at 11.20 p.m., Mosgiel 12.20 a.m., Waihola 1.15 a.m., Milton 2 a.m., Balclutha 3.25 a.m., Clinton 4.55 a.m., arriving at Invercargill 8.20 a.m. on 31st December.

Trains will leave Balclutha for Owaka at 11.30 a.m. and 8 p.m.; returning from Owaka at 2 p.m. and 9.30 p.m.

SUNDAY, 31st DECEMBER.

An Excursion Train will leave Christchurch for Dunedin at 10.40 p.m. on 30th December, leaving Oamaru 4.45 a.m., Hampden 5.50 a.m., Palmerston 6.15 a.m., Waikouaiti 7.15 a.m., Seaclyff 7.45 a.m., Waitati 8.5 a.m., arriving at Dunedin at 9 a.m. This train will stop at stations named, also at other stations where required to set down passengers from North of Oamaru.

A special train will leave Invercargill for Dunedin at 11.15 p.m. on 30th December, leaving Clinton 2.45 a.m., Balclutha 3.55 a.m., Milton 4.55 a.m., arriving at Dunedin 7.10 a.m.

MONDAY, 1st JANUARY.

CALEDONIAN SPORTS AT OAMARU.

RACES AT WAIKOUAITI.

The train usually leaving Dunedin for Palmerston at 7.40 a.m., will leave at 7.50 a.m., and will run through to Oamaru, leaving Sawyers' Bay at 8.22 a.m., Waitati 9.10 a.m., Seaclyff 9.45 a.m., Waikouaiti 10.15 a.m., Palmerston 10.55 a.m., Hampden 11.40 a.m., Herbert 12.5 p.m., Maheno 12.20 p.m., arriving at Oamaru 12.55 p.m., returning from Oamaru at 2.20 p.m., Maheno 3.5 p.m., Herbert 3.23 p.m., Hampden 3.50 p.m., Palmerston 4.55 p.m., Waikouaiti 5.55 p.m., Seaclyff 6.40 p.m., Waitati 7.10 p.m., arriving at Dunedin 8.20 p.m.

A Train will leave Dunedin for Palmerston at 9 a.m., Sawyers' Bay 9.32 a.m., Waitati 10.22 a.m., Seaclyff 10.57 a.m., Waikouaiti 11.28 a.m., returning from Palmerston at 4 p.m., Waikouaiti 4.56 p.m., Seaclyff 5.35 p.m., Waitati 6.5 p.m., arriving at Dunedin 7.15 p.m.

A Train will leave Dunedin for Oamaru at 10.20 a.m., Waitati 11.23 a.m., Seaclyff 11.50 a.m., Waikouaiti 12.9 p.m., Palmerston 12.35 p.m., Hampden 1.14 p.m., Herbert 1.39 p.m., Maheno 1.49 p.m.; returning from Oamaru at 4.40 p.m., Maheno 5.6 p.m., Herbert 5.19 p.m., Hampden 5.44 p.m., Palmerston 6.26 p.m., Waikouaiti 6.49 p.m., Seaclyff 7.18 p.m., Waitati 7.37 p.m., arriving at Dunedin 8.30 p.m.

The 10.20 a.m. Train from Dunedin and the 4.40 p.m. train from Oamaru will only stop at Upper Port Chalmers, Waitati, Seaclyff, Waikouaiti, Palmerston, Shag Point Junction, Hillgrove, Hampden, Herbert, and Maheno.

Holiday Excursion Tickets between Dunedin, Waikouaiti, Palmerston, Oamaru, and intermediate stations will NOT be available by the Express Trains.

The 8.30 p.m. Train, Dunedin to Port Chalmers, and the 9.20 p.m. Train, Port Chalmers to Dunedin, will NOT run. Train will leave Dunedin for Port Chalmers at 9 p.m.; returning from Port Chalmers at 9.35 p.m.

Train will leave Dunedin for Port Chalmers at 11.30 p.m.; returning from Port Chalmers at 12.5 a.m.

Train will leave Dunedin for Balclutha at 11.20 p.m.

The Train usually leaving Owaka for Balclutha at 1 p.m., will NOT run. Trains will leave Balclutha for Owaka at 11.30 a.m. and 8 p.m.; returning from Owaka at 2 p.m. and 9.30 p.m.

SPORTS AT MIDDLEMARCH.

Train will leave Dunedin for Hyde at 8 a.m., Wingatui 8.40 a.m., Hindon 10.5 a.m., Middlemarch 11.40 a.m.; returning from Hyde at 5.5 p.m., Middlemarch 6.20 p.m., Hindon 7.55 p.m., arriving at Dunedin 10 p.m.

SPORTS AT CLINTON.

Train will leave Clinton for Balclutha at 6.25 p.m.

SPORTS AT INVERCARGILL.

The Train usually leaving Clinton for Invercargill at 6 a.m. will not leave till 6.30 a.m.

Train usually leaving Clinton for Invercargill at 2.10 p.m., will not leave until 3.45 p.m.

The Train usually leaving Invercargill for Clinton at 7.5 a.m., will not leave until 8.5 a.m.

The Train usually leaving Invercargill for Clinton at 4.15 p.m., will not leave until 6.10 p.m.

TUESDAY, 2nd JANUARY.

CALEDONIAN SPORTS AT OAMARU.

SPORTS AT AT WAITATI.

A Train will leave Dunedin for Palmerston at 9 a.m., Sawyers' Bay 9.32 a.m., Waitati 10.22 a.m., Seaclyff 10.57 a.m., Waikouaiti 11.28 a.m., returning from Palmerston at 4.25 p.m., Waikouaiti 4.56 p.m., Seaclyff 5.35 p.m., Waitati 6.5 p.m., arriving at Dunedin 7.15 p.m.

A Train will leave Dunedin for Oamaru at 10.20 a.m., Waitati 11.23 a.m., Seaclyff 11.50 a.m., Waikouaiti 12.9 p.m., Palmerston 12.35 p.m., Hampden 1.14 p.m., Herbert 1.39 p.m., Maheno 1.49 p.m., returning from Oamaru at 4.40 p.m., Maheno 5.6 p.m., Herbert 5.19 p.m., Hampden 5.44 p.m., Palmerston 6.26 p.m., Waikouaiti 6.49 p.m., Seaclyff 7.18 p.m., Waitati 7.37 p.m., arriving at Dunedin 8.30 p.m.

The 10.20 a.m. Train from Dunedin and 4.40 p.m. Train from Oamaru will stop only at Upper Port Chalmers, Waitati, Seaclyff, Waikouaiti, Palmerston, Shag Point Junction, Hillgrove, Hampden, Herbert, and Maheno.

Holiday Excursion Tickets between Dunedin, Palmerston, Oamaru, and intermediate stations will not be available by Express Trains.

SPECIAL NIGHT TRAINS.

Will run as under:—

Dunedin, depart 8.10 p.m., Waitati 9.25 p.m., Seaclyff 9.55 p.m., Waikouaiti 10.20 p.m., Palmerston 10.50 p.m., Hampden 11.35 p.m., Maheno 12.10 a.m., Oamaru 12.45 a.m., arriving at Christchurch at 7 a.m. on 3rd January. This train will stop at the stations named; also at any station North of Oamaru to set down passengers.

Christchurch, depart 8.15 p.m., Oamaru 3.0 a.m., Palmerston 4.48 a.m., arriving at Dunedin 7 a.m. on 3rd January. This train will stop at any station between Oamaru and Dunedin to set down passengers from North of Oamaru.

Train will leave Dunedin for Port Chalmers at 11.30 p.m.; returning from Port Chalmers at 12.5 a.m.

Train will leave Dunedin for Mosgiel at 11.20 p.m.

Train will leave Balclutha for Owaka at 8.0 p.m.; returning from Owaka at 9.30 p.m.

BLUFF REGATTA.

Train usually leaving Clinton for Invercargill at 6.0 a.m. will not leave until 6.30 a.m.

Train usually leaving Clinton for Invercargill at 2.10 p.m. will not leave until 3.45 p.m.

The Train usually leaving Invercargill for Clinton at 7.5 a.m. will not leave until 8.5 a.m.

The Train usually leaving Invercargill for Clinton at 4.15 p.m. will not leave until 6.10 p.m.

GOODS SHEDS at Dunedin and Port Chalmers will be CLOSED on MONDAY and TUESDAY, 1st and 2nd January.

By Order.

An account is to hand by the last English mail of a marvellous ride on a motor tricycle by a French rider named Béconnais, who succeeded in riding 42 miles 337 yards in the hour. This wonderful performance was accomplished at the Princes Track, Paris, on a three and a-quarter horse power motor of the Aster type, fitted with Dunlop tyres, and was officially timed. Béconnais also rode a lap on the same track, 600 yards in circumference, in the fast time of 32½ seconds, equal to about 50 miles an hour.—*.*

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.—*.*

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"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.

DR. 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).

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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.

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The best Wines, Ales and Spirits kept in stock.

Stabling and Paddock. Terms Moderate.

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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.

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

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Town and Country Orders promptly attended to.

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DOWLING STREET, DUNEDIN.

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

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Everything of the Best and all Drawn from the Wood.

THE BEST CEMENT EXHIBITED—MAORI BRAND.

Vide Jurors' Report N.Z. Exhibition.

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 Provable 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.

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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

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