

accurate historical account of the famous 'plot.' The day has come and gone, practically without any serious notice in any direction. It is true there was a 'demonstration' in Dunedin—or rather, in that centre of sweetness and light, South Dunedin—but anyone reading between the lines of the report can easily discern that poor old 'Guy Fawkes' was only brought in as a convenient excuse for getting up a 'bun-rush' and a dance. An effort was made indeed to 'improve the occasion' but even the press reporters, who usually try to put matters in the best possible light, were candid enough to indicate that the attempt was a painful 'frost.' The piece de resistance of the intellectual part of the entertainment was a twelve verse composition, called 'The Gunpowder Plot,' with a chorus composed by Mr R. N. Adams. This was distributed amongst the audience with the programmes, and Mr. Adams sang one verse and the chorus, and then invited the audience to join with him in the musical rendering of the composition. Mr. Adams's twelve-barrelled 'pome,' however, was too much even for a South Dunedin Orange audience. They tackled it gamely, and wrestled with it bravely for a time, but long before they reached the concluding verse it had got them all down. As the 'Star' report delicately puts it: 'Mr. Adams was not the best of leaders. The air was not a catchy one, and the audience had evidently assembled to listen to songs, not to learn a new one, and so the singing lesson soon came to an end, and a programme of varied musical items was gone through,' etc. We feel sure that Mr. Adams, who has never believed in hiding his light under a bushel, will in due time publish the Guy Fawkes epic, and we confess we await the event with no little interest. In the meantime, from its reception at South Dunedin, we have a strong suspicion that the general verdict on the production and its author will be pretty much on the lines of Josh Billings' answer to a similar poetaster who was anxious for his opinion on some manuscript he had forwarded. 'Dere sir,' wrote the genial Josh in reply, 'dere sir, yew may be a darn phule, but you're no poeck.' The Guy Fawkes laureate may be—all sorts of things; but we have a deep and sure conviction he is no 'poeck.'

THE CATHOLIC CONGRESS

(From our own correspondent.)

Melbourne, October 28.

The Collection of Bibles,

got together for exhibition by his Grace Archbishop Carr, is of very special interest and of a kind quite unexpected. To find the antique so well represented is a matter for surprise. There is, for example, a copy of an edition of the Vulgate published at Venice in the year 1511. It is in great part ornamentally printed, the characters being in red ink as well as in black, and contains a number of exquisite woodcuts, the work of Montegna, a master-hand. A note attached to the volume says, 'This is a rare and valuable edition of the Vulgate published before Luther revolted against the Catholic Church.' Another, described as very rare, was printed by Charles Stephen, Royal typographer, at Paris, in the year 1553. Neatness is a distinctive feature of this volume, which in size seems intended for pocket use. A peculiarity of the book is that the text is not divided into verses. The title-page of an English copy, printed for the English College at Rheims in 1633, and belonging to a fourth edition, bears some curious, significant inscriptions, the spelling being characteristically archaic, as is also the type: 'The New Testament of Jesus Christ translated into English out of the authentical Latin, diligently conferred with the Greek and other editions in divers languages; with arguments of books and chapters, annotations and other helps for the better understanding of the text, and especially for the discovery of corruptions in divers late translations; and for clearing controversies of heretical corruptions. The fourth edition enriched with pictures.' The quotation 'Search the Scriptures,' John 5, is given beneath. Psalm 118, v. 34, is also quoted, as is likewise a passage from St. Augustine enjoining particular attention to the things that are read in Holy Writ, and especially those that make against heretics, whose deceits cease not to circumvent or beguile all the weaker sort and the more negligent persons. A copy of the fifth edition of this English translation, with wood-cuts, published in 1738,

is also on view. There is a Bible in French, published at Amsterdam in 1712; an Arabic version issued from Propaganda, a copy of the Vulgate, published at the Vatican under Pope Sixtus V. in 1593, a Greek Testament, with a Latin translation printed at Antwerp in 1581, a copy of the Septuagint dating from Leipzig in 1621, and various other Bibles including the Old Testament in Hebrew. A more modern but not less suggestive volume is an English translation of the Vulgate edited by the Rev. Ignatius Horstmann, D.D., a professor in the seminary of St. Charles, at Philadelphia, and prepared under the special sanction of Archbishop Wood. A particularly interesting exhibit is a scroll mounted on a roller, attached to which is the following explanatory notes in the handwriting of his Eminence: 'This parchment scroll contains the Book of Esther in Hebrew. It is an interesting manuscript and was purchased in Palestine by the Most Rev. Dr. Murphy, Archbishop of Hobart, during his visit to the Holy Land. It was given to me by his Grace in May 1889, and has been presented by me to the library of St. Patrick's College, at Manly, Sydney, 28th February, 1890. Patrick Francis Cardinal Moran.'

I have by no means exhausted the list of Bibles on exhibition, but those mentioned seem sufficient to serve as samples. The exhibition might be visited with special interest in connection with a very fine paper on Bible-reading contributed by his Lordship Dr. Delany. The Coadjutor Bishop of Hobart is in every respect a brilliant and able writer, and his paper will not be found the least interesting or valuable in the published volume. But here I must hold my hand. It is impossible within the limits at my disposal to enter into details. All will be contained in the volume alluded to.

Papers of Special Interest

to readers of the 'Tablet' have been contributed during the sessions by Mr. J. J. Wilson, of Christchurch, on the progress of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in New Zealand; by the Rev. H. W. Cleary on 'Secular and Catholic Journalism,' a plea for the Catholic press, and on the Maori warrior, setting forth the differences brought about in Maori warfare by the introduction of gunpowder. Father Cleary is also making an effort to promote the establishment of a Catholic press association. New Zealand representatives present at the Congress are—Auckland, Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan; Christchurch, Right Rev. Dr. Grimes; Wellington, Rev. Father O'Shea, S.M.; Dunedin, Very Rev. Dean Burke (Invercargill), Rev. Fathers Coffey and Cleary. Lay representatives are Messrs. E. T. O'Connell and A. Shiel (Dunedin), E. Prendergast (Otago).

At the session on Thursday forenoon the members of the hierarchy received a very important reinforcement in the person of the Most Rev. Dr. O'Reilly, Archbishop of Adelaide, of whose intellectual standing it is unnecessary for me to speak. His Grace's reputation as a writer and scholar of varied parts is world-wide. The higher intellect and scholarship of the Congress also on that day received another addition by the arrival of your own Dean Burke, who, in my rather extensive experience of Australasian dignitaries, ranks second to very few.

At the session especially alluded to a resolution of sympathy with the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart in their recent affliction in New Guinea, proposed by Mr. O'Loughlin (S.A.) and seconded by Mr. John Meagher (N.S.W.), was carried by acclamation, as was also a resolution of sympathy with the persecuted Church in France. Dr. Boismenu, on the part of the missionaries, spoke on the motion referring to them, expressing himself fluently and clearly in the vernacular. Archbishop Navarre, whose Coadjutor Dr. Boismenu is, and for whom some years ago in Sydney I had the honor of translating into English a letter, written hurriedly by his Grace during a voyage from the islands, has not acquired our rougher tongue. The letter in question, written for the information of some high British official, impressed me deeply with the obstacles and dangers against which the missionaries must contend.

The Principal Session,

which took place on Thursday, was held in the afternoon at the Convent of the Good Shepherd at Abbotsford. But how to convey anything approaching an adequate idea of it is the puzzle. Dr. Kenny had warned us that a problem to be, or not to be, solved was how to pack at least 1200 people, at which he calculated the attendance, into a hall capable of accommodating 500 only. The secretary, moreover, had not exaggerated in his anticipations. There must have been many more than 1200 present. The membership of the Congress had by that time amounted to 1992 and was still increasing. But the Sisters are endless in their resources. For those of their guests, as the members then were, who could not obtain admission into their hall—a very fine one nevertheless—they provided an overflow entertainment in a schoolroom. The grounds and gar-

Hancock's "BISMARCK" LAGER BEER.

NEW ZEALAND'S
NEW INDUSTRY