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MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIII. TO THE N.Z. TABLET

Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitiæ causam promovere per vias Veritatis et Pacis.
Die 4 Aprilis, 1900.

LEO XIII., P.M.

TRANSLATION.—Fortified by the Apostolic Blessing, let the Directors and Writers of the New Zealand Tablet continue to promote the cause of Religion and Justice by the ways of Truth and Peace.
April 4, 1900.

LEO XIII., Pope.

Current Topics

Greetings!

A New Year's greeting to all our readers! And blessing upon them while the

'Years roll through the palm of ages
As the dropping of the Rosary speeds
Through the cold and passive fingers
Of a hermit at his beads.'

The Cardinal's Jubilee

One of the wisest of women's heads was that which adorned the amiable and neglected Polish wife of Louis XV. of France. A dictum of hers was to this effect: that the people who are great should not be great except for the sake of the people who are little. The description seems to us to apply to the great Prince of the Church, the Cardinal-Archbishop of Sydney, who (as reported elsewhere in our columns) has recently been celebrating his sacerdotal golden jubilee. During the last nineteen years of his jubilee period he has been, perhaps, the most commanding personality in Australia, and his episcopate has been marked by great and devoted work for the children, the poor, the sick, the neglected, and, generally, 'for the sake of the people who are little.' A great churchman and a great patriot, Cardinal Moran sees a bright and glorious to-morrow for the adopted land which he loves so well. 'I am convinced,' said he in reply to a congratulatory address from his clergy, 'that a great future awaits Australia. It was not without a view to a special religious mission that Providence permitted this vast island continent, though on the direct highway of commerce, to remain unknown and hidden away from the civilised world till the close of the eighteenth century. She enters late in the field, but with her vast resources and giant energy she shall attain her destiny. We have had as pioneers in this fair land golden Bishops and golden priests, and long may their traditions and their example be the heritage of the Australian Church. But, furthermore, we have a golden laity, truly golden in their piety and in their desire to promote the interests of charity and religion and at all times ready to generously co-operate with their clergy in every good work.'

We cordially wish the eminent jubilarian life and strength 'ad multos annos' to work 'pro ecclesia Dei'—for the advancement of God's Church on earth.

Young Men's Society

On Christmas Day—auspicious date—the representatives of New Zealand's Catholic Young Men's Societies met in Dunedin. The associations are engaged in the noble work of leading others up the heights at that critical period of life when the budding life comes into contact with the thousand-and-one dangers arising from idleness, evil companions, drink, dissipation; when wrong turns are most readily taken; when pitfalls most abound; when faith is sometimes undermined or lost; when promising lives are often shaken out of their true centre of gravity. Our Young Men's Societies all run in practically the same groove. Mutual improvement is their chief aim; their means, debates, readings, music, drama, recitations, practice in public speaking, the whole seasoned with wholesome and elevating companionship and associations that make for the formation of true men as we need them.

It is the common experience that in such societies there will usually be a picked body of young Gideonites who hold fast with the grip of a steel trap to the principles which should guide them in toiling up the steep. Outside these there will ordinarily be a shifting and uncertain fringe of members who take a shy, dainty, spasmodic, half-hearted interest in the working of the association, but appear in full force and upholstered in their most expensive drapery when the circling months bring the annual social or picnic around. This is not as it should be. Voltaire threw himself wholly into his lying and profane buffoonery against the Church. One of the needs that cry aloud in societies of the kind under consideration is all-round earnestness in good. Enthusiasm is not necessary. It is often as short-lived, if as brilliant, as foam cut off from the water. The chief thing needful is merely cool-headed, solid, hard-faced earnestness: the kind that sets its teeth and buttons its coat and marches defiantly against the storm, and keeps on in rain and sleet and shine from New Year's Day to St. Sylvester's.

The trouble—where there is listlessness or trouble—lies not in the aim of our Catholic Young Men's Societies. Nor is it necessary, we believe, to seek it in the main lines of their management. It will probably be most frequently found in causes that lie outside both aim and management. Defective school training (we refer especially to State schools), undesirable home associations or companionships, and, to some extent, the character of favored pursuits or amusements frequently evolve, directly or indirectly, tastes and feelings that

For { COUGHS,
COLDS,
BRONCHITIS, Etc. }

Take!

BONNINGTON'S CARRAGEEN IRISH MOSS

are incompatible with a deep, practical interest in the work of mutual improvement societies such as we describe. Hence a lack of appreciation of their benefits, or an idea that the gains are not worth the pains. And hence again, so many youths are satisfied to loaf and drone and dawdle their precious evenings away, propping up verandah-posts and house corners, turning out their minds to grass—till their intellects, for lack of exercise, lose their grip of things. In this respect they resemble the fortune-spoiled, aimless-lived man of whom Dale-Owen writes in his autobiography. 'I have let my mind go to seed,' said he remorsefully, 'I have thrown away a life.' And he had but one life to throw away.

The fresh impetus, the new verve and sparkle, imported into Young Men's Societies by the recent Catholic Congress is, we hope and believe, working like a useful leaven in our federated associations in New Zealand. So much, at least, we gather from the recent meetings in Dunedin. We wish the young men God-speed in their noble apostolate among their fellow-youths who are marching with them shoulder to shoulder along the road of life.

'All in a Fog.'

Nova Scotia, California, and Oregon possess fogs that have won a name for themselves in the literature of meteorology. But London's own particular fog may claim to be the gold-medallist among fogs. Oscar Wilde wrote of it thus:—

'The yellow fog came creeping down
The bridges, till the houses' walls
Seemed changed to shadows, and St. Paul's
Loomed like a bubble o'er the town.'

But that was a thin, tame, and inadequate fog. One, for instance, settled down on London in the beginning of November, 1879. It wiped out all view of the city, clung on till the following February, raised the death-rate to forty-three per cent. above the average, and swept into another world more people suffering with asthma, bronchitis, and other respiratory troubles than had ever had the partnership between body and soul in the world-capital during the same period.

Here is a cabied description of a London fog from last Friday's daily papers:—

'A very dense fog stopped vehicular traffic in London last night, and disorganised the railways. Pedestrians were hopelessly lost, and there were numerous accidents. Queen Alexandra was unable to travel to Sandringham. The fog continues, causing great loss to the London Christmas trade.'

A fog is also in many other ways a costly visitation to London. A simple eight hours' day of it may involve an extra positive expenditure of from £50,000 to £100,000 in chinking coins of the realm. A goodly proportion of this finds its way into the hands of the gas and electric light companies. A fog also brings much danger, tribulation, and expense to the railway companies. 'Fog signalling,' says an English railway paper before us, 'is expensive. At Clapham Junction alone £50 has been spent by a single railway company during a day's fog in extra pay to the platelayers. When the red light cannot be seen at a distance of a hundred yards the platelayers become fog signallers. For this they are paid a shilling a day in addition to their regular wages and fourpence per hour overtime, provided the overtime does not run into a second shilling.' But extra lighting and fog signalling represent only a part of the cost of the rolling yellow visitation, and London is a fine city to live out of when it is 'all in a fog.'

The Grey Statue

Once upon a time the Fool of Brederode tramped heavily across some freshly ploughed fields, making, as he went, the motions of a man who is sowing grain.

'What are you sowing?' said one to him. 'I sow fools,' he replied. 'Why do you not sow wise men?' 'Why?' echoed the Fool; 'just because the earth does not produce them.' Yet, with the good leave of the wearer of the cap and bells of Brederode, this old earth has produced a goodly crop of the wise and great. It was a dictum of Sir William Temple that 'some ages produce many great men and few great occasions; other times, on the contrary, raise great occasions and few or no great men.' New Zealand's early days produced some great occasions; they likewise produced the men to fit them. 'There is nothing,' says William Pember Reeves in 'The Long White Cloud,' 'like the colonial grindstone for putting an edge on good steel.' Sir George Grey's commanding faculties were sharpened by his New Zealand experiences till he became one of the master-builders of the Empire. His memory will long remain in New Zealand as the man whose mind stretched out a generation in advance of his day, and Auckland honors itself as well as him in the noble monument which it unveiled last week to perpetuate the fame of his name by the waters of the Waitemata. Grey landed in New Zealand as Governor in 1845. Heke's war was then in full blast, and a great fear had settled down upon the scattered white population of the infant colony. He was then a youthful officer of three-and-thirty years: blue-eyed, reticent, courageous, courteous, and as strong-jawed and tenacious of his grip of a purpose as a Bordeaux mastiff.

The following lines have been aptly applied to 'Good Governor Grey':—

'No hasty fool of stubborn will,
But prudent, wary, pliant still,
Who, since his work was good,
Would do it as he could.'

To New Zealand of sixty years ago Sir George Grey was in a minor way, to New Zealand what the great silent warrior, Field-Marshal Moltke, was, in a later day, to the German Fatherland—der Schlachtenlenker, der Schlachtendenker (the battle-ruler, the battle-thinker). He 'smashed' the insurgent Heke and his men—who marvelled at seeing the Pakeha warriors march into the red heart of battle with their clothes on and great packs (knapsacks) upon their backs, and without a hint of the fierce yells and contortions and obstreperous hullohaloo of the war-dance. But Grey had courtesy as well as courage. He possessed first-class talents as a 'pacifier'; he made his enemies his friends, and they learned to love—even to idolise him; he restored tranquility to the country; he kept guns and gunpowder out of the hands of the Maori and waipiro (fire-water) out of their mouths; he started useful public works; and he set white man and brown man in the Land of the Long White Cloud on the high-road to such peace and prosperity as they had never known before.

In New Zealand history, says Reeves, 'Grey is the greatest figure, and most attractive and complex study. Of such a man destiny might have made a great visionary, a capable general, an eloquent tribune, or a graceful writer. He had in him the stuff for any of these. But the south wing of the British Empire had to be built, and the gods made Grey a social architect in the guise of a pro-consul. Among the colonies of the southern hemisphere he is already a figure of history, and among them no man has played so many parts in so many theatres with so much success. Not merely was he the savior and organiser of New Zealand, South Australia, and South Africa; not merely was he an explorer of the deserts of New Holland, and a successful campaigner in New Zealand bush-warfare, but he found time, by way of recreation, to be an ethnologist, a literary pioneer, and an ardent book-collector who twice was generous enough to found libraries with the books which had been the solace and happiness of his working life.'

There are spots on the sun, and Sir George Grey had, like other heroes and statesmen, his share of the petty defeats from which even the best are by no means free. But, as Mr. Reeves points out, 'before a life so strenuous, so dramatic, and so fruitful, criticism—at least colonial criticism—is inclined respectfully to lay down the pen.' As to the man himself: he certainly dimmed the lustre of his fame when he stepped down from his Governor's pedestal to push and elbow and tussle with his inferiors in the 'scram' of New Zealand's party politics. 'In a long life of bustle and change,' says the writer already quoted, 'his strong but mixed character changed and moulded circumstances, and circumstances also changed and moulded him. The ignorant injustice of some of his Downing Street masters might well have warped his disposition even more than it did. The many honest and acute men who did not keep step with Grey, who were disappointed in him, or repelled by and embittered against him, were not always wrong. Some of his eulogists have been silly. But the student of his peculiar nature must be an odd analyst who does not in the end conclude that Grey was on the whole more akin to the Christian hero painted by Froude and Olive Schreiner than to the malevolent political chess-player of innumerable colonial leader-writers.' Take him all in all, we shall not for many a day look upon his like again in New Zealand.

CARDINAL MORAN'S GOLDEN JUBILEE.

On Thursday, December 8, the golden jubilee of the definition of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception was celebrated throughout the world, and that was the day selected by His Eminence Cardinal Moran for the celebration of his Sacerdotal Golden Jubilee. After the ceremonies at St. Mary's Cathedral in honor of the Immaculate Conception, and just before the singing of the 'Te Deum,' the Vicar-General of the archdiocese read an address of congratulation to his Eminence.

The Cardinal's Reply.

His Eminence replied as follows:—Thomas à Kempis in his golden treatise, 'De Imitatione Christi,' registers the Christian saying of the Middle Ages, 'qui me laudat, me flagellat.' In your address you have, with no sparing hand, administered that castigation to me; to make amends, it may be permitted me to ask your fervent prayers that having spent 50 years in the sacred ministry I may not become a castaway from the fellowship of the Divine Master, but that I may faithfully persevere to the end, following in His footsteps, enlightened by His Sacred Truth, strengthened by His manifold graces, and comforted by His Holy Love. But I must view those remarks of your address in another light. It is manifest that in your own enlightened zeal, you have been marking out the high ideal of the Christian Bishop, corresponding to the Redeemer's mission and fulfilling His Divine Will. In the exuberance of your filial devotedness and affection, overlooking many shortcomings and faults, you would transfer to me the reality and perfection of that exalted ideal. It will be my endeavor through your assistance and with the prayers of a loving faithful people to aspire to attain some measure at least of that ideal, for such endeavors with the blessing of heaven cannot fail to lead to the happiest results.

To the young priest entering on his sacred mission it is in a great measure a matter of indifference where his lot may be cast, for everywhere the harvest of the Divine Master has to be gathered in, and everywhere His Divine Will has to be accomplished. The priest's mission is divine. He is as truly called to the sanctuary to-day as was Samuel of old. He bears in his inmost soul the summons, 'sequere me,' just as the first disciples were summoned from their fishing nets to be the heralds of Divine Truth. The secret of his success will be his fullest recognition that the sacred ministry is the work of God, who makes use of the weakest instruments to attain His Own Divine purpose. Use efforts as we may, we can of ourselves do nothing that is Divine. The smallest work of building up God's Church is infinitely beyond all human strength. If, then, something has to be done, some progress made and some good accomplished, with all sincerity we must repeat 'servi inutiles sumus'; to God alone all honor and praise and glory are due.

In all humility I may cry out with the royal psal-

mist, 'sortes meae in praeclaris.' For the first twelve years of my priesthood my lot was cast in Rome, and the special duty devolved upon me to promote the higher sacred studies in the Colleges with which it was my privilege to be connected.

Rome is the Centre of Christendom, the seat of Christ's Vicar upon earth, the city of the soul, sanctified by the preaching and the martyrdom of the princes of the Apostles, and by the relics of countless martyrs for the faith. No wonder that it has been at all times the abode of saints, and that the faithful have hastened thither on pilgrimages from all parts as to the New Jerusalem upon earth, blessed by the Most High.

The first years of my priesthood witnessed the solemn scene, unique in the Church's history, when the great Pontiff, Pius IX., proclaimed to the Catholic world the dogmatical definition of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin. Two hundred Bishops and other representatives of every church in Christendom were gathered in St. Peter's on that august occasion, and from the hearts of 40,000 of the assembled faithful went up to heaven the 'Te Deum' in thanksgiving for the glorious wreath now added to the peerless diadem of the Blessed Virgin. The definition was hailed with unparalleled enthusiasm and joy throughout the Catholic world. Our own Australia was represented at St. Peter's by the first illustrious Archbishop of this See, and the Australian clergy and faithful people were partakers to the fullest extent of the religious enthusiasm and delight that everywhere prevailed. In the history of the Australian Church I read: 'Nowhere was this solemn definition of the privilege of our Immaculate Lady received with greater enthusiasm and delight than in the Australian Church, which, under the title of Help of Christians, honors her as chief patron. Tridiums of thanksgiving were celebrated in the principal churches, and even the humblest Catholic homestead in the various colonies felt the thrill of the universal rejoicing.'

To me it is a matter of special gratification that my humble jubilee commemoration even in a remote way has been by you associated with the triumphant celebration throughout the whole Catholic world of the grand jubilee feast of the definition of this privilege of Our Lady. The Immaculate Conception was the first of the manifold heavenly blessings conferred upon her, the beginning of her triumphs and her joys. Throughout my long years of priesthood, I am wholly indebted to the Blessed Virgin for whatever good has been accomplished, whatever evil has been avoided, whatever victory achieved. She has been at all times my pillar of strength, my shield against every danger, my support in weakness, my refuge in difficulties, my guiding star in every enterprise.

In Ireland.

From Rome I was transferred to Dublin, where for seven years I held the office of secretary to Cardinal Cullen, the illustrious Archbishop of that See. As Primate he was identified with the great National Synod of Thurles, in which the Church of Ireland laid aside the weeds of mourning and was clothed once more with the garments of peace and gladness. Under his guidance in the See of Dublin piety and religion grew apace. Churches, convents, schools, hospitals, orphanages were multiplied, with every variety of institutions that could add decorum to religion or bring enlightenment, sympathy, and relief to the poor and the suffering members of Christ. It has always been to me a most grateful remembrance to have been in a very humble way associated in such a glorious apostolate.

In 1872 I was summoned to the See of Ossory, and for twelve years it was my privilege to labor in that diocese whose sons have long held a foremost place among their countrymen for their patriotism and piety.

Humanly speaking, no mission could be more pleasing to me than those 19 years thus spent in promoting the interests of religion in my native land. Among Christian nations Ireland stands alone for her earnestness in piety and her devotedness to religion. A most Catholic and most religious people, they have made greater sacrifices for the Faith than any other Christian nation, and in their daily life it pleased heaven to renew the heroism of piety and to multiply the victories of the Cross of Christ. In olden times the sons of Ireland evangelised the world; in our own day it has been their mission to unfurl the banner of the Cross triumphant in every English-speaking land.

It has been well said that the character of the Irish people in its religious aspects is something exceptional. More than most other nations they lead a supernatural life; they live by faith, they are quickened by religion, their strength is from God, their whole happiness is in Him. They suffered more for the faith than any other nation in modern times has suffered. The persecution which Ireland endured for religion was more intense,

more bitter, more prolonged than in any other country, yet she was not overcome. For three centuries she endured her sufferings with all the calmness and fortitude of the early martyrs; and by those sufferings not only was the triumph of the Cross proclaimed to distant lands, but she achieved for herself and for countless others the victory of religious freedom. Religion to-day lights up her hills with heaven's light, and in the assertion of their just rights imparts to her people a vigor and strength that are invincible.

My Mission Field in Sydney.

From Ireland I was translated to Australia, and for the 19 closing years of my jubilee period my mission-field has been here in Sydney among yourselves. I found here in our faithful people the same distinctive features that have made Ireland singularly attractive among missionary countries—fervent piety, abounding charity, great zeal for religion. As regards our religious life we may justly be styled a greater Ireland beyond the seas, and may we not hope that like that dear island of the west, it may be Australia's mission to lead many nations to know our Saviour and to love Him. Why should we not hope for these grandest results. The love of the Redeemer for His Church is not less strong now than hitherto; His power is not lessened. The Holy Spirit continues to be the abiding guardian and ruler of the Church, and His Divine gifts flow forth as ceaselessly and as abundantly as from the beginning.

I am convinced that a great future awaits Australia. It was not without a view to a special religious mission that Providence permitted this vast island continent, though on the direct highway of commerce, to remain unknown and hidden away from the civilised world till the close of the eighteenth century. She enters late in the field, but with her vast resources and giant energy she shall attain her destiny.

We have had as pioneers in this fair land golden Bishops and golden priests, and long may their traditions and their example be the heritage of the Australian Church. But, furthermore, we have a golden lady truly golden in their piety and in their desire to promote the interests of charity and religion, and at all times ready to generously co-operate with their clergy in every good work.

And here may I not refer to the grand result just achieved in regard to this beautiful Cathedral of St. Mary's in which we are assembled. The Cathedral Fair which has just been brought to a close, has been attended with complete success. Thanks to the boundless generosity of both clergy and people, and the singular enthusiasm which pervaded all classes in promoting this great cause, St. Mary's has been freed from every fraction of debt, and may now be solemnly consecrated to God. It has not been found possible to bring the art union to a close, but its success is assured, and its proceeds shall be applied to the renewal of the Organ Fund. The whole proceedings of the Fair have been a genuine triumph of Australian democracy. Very few large sums have been subscribed. The grand result of almost £16,000 is due to small contributions, many of them from generous friends in the remote back-blocks, and not a few also from non-Catholics.

Our Non-Catholic Friends.

Referring to our non-Catholic friends, may I not say that looking to the future of the Australian Church, we cannot but rejoice at the excellent spirit that animates very many among them. We see on every side a weariness of their present state of isolation and a desire that some fashion at least of union should prevail amongst them. The broken cisterns besides which they have so long been seated can no longer satisfy their souls athirst for the life-giving waters of Redemption. We must pray that every heavenly grace may abound with them, that coming to the feet of the Good Shepherd they may find the reality of the Redeemer's prayer that there be one fold and one shepherd. We cannot of course close our eyes to the fact that there are some among them who, endeavoring to keep alive the prejudices of the home countries, unceasingly assail the Catholic Church with demoniac hatred and leave nothing undone to stir up strife against her. For this end they pour out their venom in lies and calumnies against her heavenly teaching. They preach the gospel of hate and discord, not the gospel of peace and love. Any system that is in need of such aid betrays its origin and stands before the whole Christian community as self-condemned. We must, however, pray for those who thus assail us. They know not what they do. By fervent prayer we may hope that they too shall obtain the grace to know our Saviour and to love Him. Their assaults are the fulfilment of the Redeemer's words: 'If the world hath hated Me, so shall it hate you also.' Their enmity is an invincible proof that Holy Church, faithful to her Divine mission, is walking in the paths of the saints and leading many souls to heaven, and

they cannot but bring home to every thinking mind the cheering reflection that at no distant day the love of truth and devotedness to Christ, and earnestness in charity are destined to rule supreme throughout our Australian Continent.

A Parting Request.

When one enters on his 75th year, his closing days cannot be far distant. I have on that account a parting request to make. When the great patron of Gaul, St. Martin of Tours, was about to pass to his reward, surrounded by his disciples, he offered up the prayer: 'Domine si adhuc populi tuo sum necessarius, non recuso laborem.' I would not presume to ask you to join with me in such a prayer, for no one realises better than myself, that when I shall have passed away the work of religion will be carried on with far greater success than hitherto, and with greater glory to the Most High. But I will rather ask you to offer for me a fervent prayer to the effect that so long as life remains I may be a faithful follower of the Divine Master, associated with you in loving Him and serving Him, and that being truly devout to our Immaculate Lady I may have the fervent aspiration of St. Augustine that has long been dear to me, ever present to my mind and ever resounding in my heart. 'Da quod jubes, Domine, et jube quod vis.'

The Cardinal afterwards entertained the clergy at Manly.

Opening of a New Church at Whakarewarewa.

(From an occasional correspondent.)

It is with pleasure I have to report another addition to the numerous churches that have been built by the Mill Hill Fathers for the Maoris of the Auckland diocese, the latest being that erected at Whakarewarewa, near Rotorua. The plans were designed by Father Kreymborg, of Rotorua, whose abilities as a builder are well known in the district; and for the past four months he and his confrere, Father Langerwerf, had devoted all their spare time to the erection of a pretty little church. At the very outset great difficulty was experienced in preparing the site, as the ground is very sulphurous and full of steam holes and mud pools, which necessitated the use of brick piles instead of wood blocks. These difficulties, however, were overcome, and where before the steam used to rise out of the ground there now stands a neat church (40ft x 18ft), built in basilica style. The six windows are glazed with pink cathedral glass, diffusing a pleasant soft light. The gable end is supported by four white columns, forming a pleasing contrast to the pale blue color of the body of the church. The diagonal lining is of the choicest rimu, which has been tastefully decorated with Maori designs painted by Father Kreymborg. The carvings, including a beautiful tabernacle, are valuable relics of the oldest Maori Church south of Auckland.

The new church is dedicated to the Immaculate Conception, and the blessing took place on the Sunday within the octave of the feast. Weeks beforehand invitations had been sent out to the native settlements of the whole district, and on the eve of the great day large crowds of Maoris arrived in the settlement and were heartily welcomed by their friends with the well-known 'Hāremat!' and the flying of banners and flags—among the latter being the Papal and Irish flags and the Union Jack—from the church.

The ceremony of blessing was performed by Father Langerwerf at 10 o'clock on Sunday morning. During Mass Father Kreymborg addressed the Maoris in their own tongue, congratulating them on the erection of their new church and dwelling on the many characteristics of the Catholic Church, whose greatest treasure is the Blessed Sacrament, whose greatest ornament is a pious and devout congregation, and whose greatest glory is the Cross, which, like another fingerpost, points out to men the way of salvation. He also addressed a few words to the Europeans, of whom a good number were present, including the Hon. John Meagher, M.L.C., of New South Wales. Several of the Natives approached the Holy Table during Mass, and a collection was taken up which well nigh liquidated the debt on the new church. After Mass the visitors, both Maori and European, were entertained at a generous repast in the native meeting house. After Vespers, which were sung by the Maoris at 3 p.m., in their own language, Father Kreymborg once more addressed the congregation on the close relations existing between the Catholic and his Church. The enthusiasm of the Maoris reached a climax during Benediction (given by Father Schönböf, of Matata) when they heard their own children sing in a creditable manner the 'O Salutaris,' 'O Sanctissima,'

and the 'Tantum Ergo,' which were followed by 'Mary, dearest Mother,' and 'O Mother, I could weep for mirth.' This brought to a close the ceremonies of the day—a day which will for ever remain memorable in the annals of the Church of Whakarewarewa.

NELSON.

(From our own correspondent.)

December 19.

The Very Rev. Father Murray, C.S.S.R., preached an eloquent sermon on the Blessed Virgin on Sunday evening.

A large audience assembled at St. Mary's Hall on Thursday afternoon for the distribution of prizes at St. Mary's Convent Schools, the hall being tastefully decorated for the occasion. Ferns, abundantly interspersed with dainty drapery, in different designs, produced an artistic effect. The local clergy with the Very Rev. Father Murray, C.S.S.R., and leading citizens, were amongst those present. A very good programme of musical items was rendered by the pupils, after which Racine's drama, 'Queen Esther,' was very capably performed.

The Rev. Father Clancy, on behalf of the audience, thanked the pupils for the production of such a varied and interesting programme, which was creditable to the careful tuition of the Sisters. He concluded his remarks by calling on Rev. Father Mahony to read the list of prize winners, and asked the Very Rev. Father Murray, C.S.S.R., to distribute the same. An exhibition of Roman, Mountmellick, and drawn thread embroidery, fancy and plain lace work, drawing, water and oil painting, all executed by the pupils, took place in the visitors' parlor, the whole work reflecting great kudos on the pupils and teachers.

NAPIER.

(From our own correspondent.)

December 19.

On December 14 there passed away, at the age of 64, Mr. Walter Cato, an old resident of Napier, who was well known in commercial and sporting circles. Though a convert for only seven years, he was an exemplary Catholic, and his familiar figure will be missed from the services at St. Patrick's Church. He died a peaceful death, fortified by all the rites of Holy Church. He leaves a widow, one daughter, and five sons, to whom a wide circle of friends extend sincere sympathy. The funeral, which took place on December 16, was largely attended. Rev. Father Bell officiated at the grave.—R.I.P.

On December 16 the Napier Harmonic Society held its last concert of the year, when Handel's oratorio, 'The Messiah,' was given, in which Mrs. Allen, leading soprano of St. Patrick's Choir, took a prominent part, and of whom the local critic writes: 'Mrs. Allen, to whom the soprano solos were allotted, stood out as the strongest vocalist of the evening. Her task was a trying one, but the success achieved was distinctly pleasing. The fine air, "I know that my Redeemer liveth," was sung with considerable devotional power, and at its conclusion Mrs. Allen had to bow her acknowledgments to the plaudits of the audience. The solos, "Come unto Him" and "How beautiful are the feet," and the recitative, "There were shepherds," were also rendered by Mrs. Allen with the necessary feeling and effect.'

On Sunday, December 18, at St. Mary's Church, 64 boys and girls received their First Communion. At the conclusion of Mass the children sat down to a splendid breakfast, provided by the parents. In the evening at St. Patrick's Church the children made a renewal of their baptismal vows. During the previous week eight Maori girls of the Maori girls' school, conducted by the Sisters of the Mission, were received into the Church, one of the number making her First Communion on Sunday.

A musical and dramatic entertainment was held in the Theatre Royal on December 12, in aid of the uniform fund of the Marist Brothers' cadets. There was a large attendance. A varied and excellent programme was presented, and met with hearty demonstrations of approval. The Frivolity Orchestra rendered great assistance. The senior pupils sang the choruses, 'Welcome to our pastor' and 'Zealandia,' acceptably, and the senior and junior pupils sang with very good effect the chorus, 'Those evening bells.' Master C. Ruston was amusing in his comic recitation, for which he was recalled, as was Master S. Harman for a comic song. Master R. Aldridge sang 'Erin, my country,' and Masters F. Barry, H. Ruston, R. O'Donohue, and A. Keating gave an excellent rendering of a humorous vocal

quartette, which had to be repeated. The cadets gave exhibitions of physical exercises, and manual and firing exercise with bayonet fighting, the various movements being creditably done. One of the best items on the programme was the dumbbell exercises by the junior pupils. The grouping was excellent, and the marching and counter-marching admirably done, while the time and precision with which the movements were performed was exceptionally good. The entertainment concluded with a two-act comedy, in which the parts were taken by Masters V. McIntosh, R. Yates, F. Treanor, and P. McNamara. Mrs. Treanor played the accompaniments, and her excellent music helped materially in the military and dumbbell exercises.

ST. MARY'S COLLEGIATE HIGH SCHOOL.

(From our Christchurch correspondent.)

The annual prize distribution in connection with St. Mary's Collegiate High School, conducted by the Sisters of Mercy, took place on Friday afternoon. His Lordship the Bishop presided, the Very Rev. Vicar-General and Rev. Fathers Madhane, Cooney, Mahony, O'Connell, and McDonald being also among the large audience. A charming musical and dramatic entertainment was given by the pupils. The following was the programme:—Chorus, pupils; pianoforte duet, Misses M. Thompson, M. Simpson, A. McKinnon, J. Donnelly, D. Blank, and C. Roche; hobby horse drill, boys; recitation, Miss M. Simpson; violin solo, Master C. White; vocal duet, Misses V. de la Cour and A. Mahon; pianoforte duet (4 pianos), Misses G. and M. Cassin, V. Shaw, K. Zachariah, L. Moore, L. Hare, and M. Callaghan; pianoforte duet (4 pianos, 3 violins), Misses V. de la Cour, E. Blank, F. McLennon, N. Turner, N. Bower, A. Sheppard, K. Molloy, M. Thomas, Masters C. and A. White and A. Hunt; chorus, pupils; pianoforte solo (3 pianos), Misses V. de la Cour, K. Molloy, and M. Thomas; vocal solo, Miss A. Mahon; recitation, Miss M. Flynn; pianoforte duet (4 pianos), Misses K. Zachariah, M. Smith, M. Schumacher, M. Molloy, N. Loughnan, B. Daniels, J. Scully, and N. Congreve; chorus, pupils. In the comedy, 'Miss Nonchalance,' the following took part: Misses N. Turner, J. Scully, M. Molloy, E. Barnett, E. Cooper, K. Zachariah, and M. Callaghan.

His Lordship the Bishop highly complimented the Sisters of Mercy on their excellent tuition, proof of which was witnessed in a remarkable degree that afternoon. The singular talent displayed by their young charges was a conspicuous feature. The results manifested by recent examinations was sufficiently convincing to prove the high position maintained by the Sisters as a teaching Order. As an example of the way the pupils distinguished themselves in the musical examinations conducted by the Royal Academy and Trinity College, eighteen passed piano, violin, and vocal tests, six gained honors, and twenty-one high places in theoretical examinations. The exhibition of work covered a wide range, the numerous articles produced by the children making a very fine display.

The following is the prize list:—

Christian Doctrine—M. Hine 1, M. Cassin 2, M. Flynn 3, H. Hunt 4.

Good Conduct—E. Barnett 1, P. Perkins 2, J. Molloy 3.

Arithmetic—Matriculation Class, N. Turner; Civil Service, G. Cassin; Standard VI., K. Zachariah; Standard IV., I. Lane; Standard III., A. White; Standard II., M. Daily; Standard I., F. Madden, K. Bradley.

Grammar and Composition—Matriculation Class, Nellie Turner; Civil Service, J. Scully; Standard VII., G. Cassin; Standard VI., N. Loughnan; Standard V., W. Ward, B. Daniel; Standard IV., K. Ward, H. Hunt.

Geography—Civil Service Class, E. Cooper; Standard VII., E. Barnett; Standard VI., M. Molloy, J. Donnelly; Standard V., M. Simpson; Standard III., J. Molloy; Standard II., L. Hayward.

History—Standard VII., K. Zachariah, J. Donnelly. Reading and Recitation—Civil Service Class, J. Scully; Standard VII., G. Cassin; Standard VI., M. Schumacher, G. Plummer; Standard V., W. Ward; Standard III., L. Moss; Standard II., A. McDavitt, F. Ward; Standard I., D. Metz.

Spelling—Civil Service Class, E. Cooper; Standard VI., G. Plummer; Standard V., A. McKinnon; Standard IV., C. Roche; Standard III., M. Cassin; Standard II., Strouts, B. Loughnan; infants, R. Darby.

Writing—Standard VI., M. Cassin, M. McKeefry; Standard III., F. Corrigan; Standard II., H. Hallett Bush; Standard I., R. Cameron, M. Daily; infants, D. White, M. Corrigan, D. Grant, Z. Madden, D. Daily.

Drawing—Figure, V. de la Cour; landscape, L. Hare; freehand, C. Green, V. Roche, F. Darby, F. White, T. Ward, F. Gerity.

Painting—Oils, V. de la Cour, L. Hare; water color, M. Hime.

Needlework—M. Smith, E. Schumacher.

Shorthand and Typewriting—L. Moore, M. Callaghan. French—N. Turner.

Music—Senior division, V. de la Cour, M. Thomas, K. Molloy, intermediate division, N. Bower, M. Schumacher; junior division, M. Molloy, M. McKeefry; preparatory division, M. Simpson; vocal music, A. Mahon; violin, Cyril White, Alfred J. White, theoretical music, M. Thompson.

SACRED HEART HIGH SCHOOL, NEW PLYMOUTH.

The breaking-up ceremony at the Sacred Heart High School and St. Joseph's School, New Plymouth (says a local paper), was largely attended by parents and friends of the pupils, amongst the visitors being Mr. M'Diarmid, chairman of the High School Board of Governors, and Mr. W. E. Spencer, the Education Board's Chief Inspector. To those fortunate enough to be present the quality of the work shown by the pupils must have come as a revelation. The mere handiwork was not only praiseworthy, but the designing was of a refined nature which added greatly to the charm of the whole.

The Mayor, prior to presenting the prizes, stated he had good reason for saying that the ordinary teaching was equal to that of the State primary schools, while those present could see for themselves the high quality of the work in needlework.

The prize list is as follows:—

Specials.

Christian Doctrine (gold cross presented by Mr. Parker), Johanna Fleming; second division, Cissie Maroney. Good conduct, boarders (gold medal presented by the Dresden Company), Nellie Sutton; day scholars, May Whitton. Politeness and amiability, Evelyn Dumbleton.

Civil Service Class—Diligence and English, May Whitton; Euclid, Bessie Godsell.

Class VII—Diligence, Pansy Whitton; reading, Mary Dolan; arithmetic, Mary O'Rorke; Euclid, Mary Dolan; algebra, Violet Foote; French, Laura Wood; drawing, Violet Foote, book-keeping and typewriting, Nellie Sutton; book-keeping, Lizzie Roberts; Sir Isaac Pitman's shorthand certificates (theory), Doris Sheffield and Winnie Bennett, (elementary), Laura Wood.

Class VI.—Highest number of marks, Katie O'Rorke, diligence, Iris Fleming, arithmetic and composition, Johanna Fleming, writing, Stella Julian, general improvement, Alice Old.

Class V.—Highest number of marks, Mary Maroney; reading and recitation, Queenie Hawkins; arithmetic, Mary Calgher; second reading, Mary O'Neill; drawing, Alice Corry.

Class IV.—Highest number of marks, Eileen Brennan, diligence, Phyllis Shemeld and Ethel Old; reading and recitation, Elsie Bennett; arithmetic, Topsy Guerin and Kathleen Bennett; writing, Marie Sheehy; letter-writing, Bessie Riddell; general improvement, Ruby Old.

Class III.—Highest number of marks, Ivy Kivell; reading, Alice Scandlyn; brushwork, Evelyn Mortimer.

Special Prizes.

Devotion and willingness to oblige teachers and companions, Bessie Godsell, Mabel Clarke, and Mimmie Maroney; diligence in music practice, Katie O'Rorke; improvement in music for Kindergarten pupils who are learning only one year, Irene Connett; music (second division, violin), Dolly Sutton; oil painting, Lizzie Roberts; singing, Queenie Hawkins; special prize for plain needlework (presented by his Worship the Mayor), Nellie Sutton, Mountmellick work, Violet Foote; fancy needlework, Lizzie Roberts and Johanna Fleming.

Kindergarten School.

Good conduct (first division), Nellie Callaghan 1, Doreen Healy 2; politeness, Gertrude Corry 1, Kathleen MacClelland 2, Nora Moore 3; Christian doctrine, Agnes Maroney; reading (first division), Eileen Pipe 1, May Moore 2; (second division), Aileen MacClelland 1, Jean Bennett 2; writing (first division), Muriel Harker; (second division), Alma Revell, spelling (first division), Hester Riddell; (second division), Mary McHardy; arithmetic (first division), Rita Stole; (second division), Agnes Maroney; tables, Gladys Kivell 1, Maurice Malone 2; brushwork, Eileen Pipe 1, Rita Sole 2, Gertrude Corry 3; recitation, Irene Connop; drawing, Maggie O'Brien 1, Rata Whitton 2; plain sewing, Dolly Bennet 1, Doreen Healy 2, Charlotte Riddell 3; fancy work, May Bennett 1, Irene Connett 2, Nora Malone 3.

Certificates.

Standard VI.—Johanna Fleming, Katie O'Rorke, Iris Dixon, Stella Julian. Trinity College of Music, London—Harmony and theory of music—Senior honors, Bessie Godsell; senior pass, May Whitton, Amelia Smith; intermediate pass, Nellie Sutton; junior honors, Doris Sheffield, Rose Rolfe, Lizzie Roberts, Kate O'Rorke, Mary Moroney, Johanna Fleming, Mary Dolan, Eily Brennan; junior pass, Pansy Whitton, Mary O'Rorke; preparatory division, Elsie Bennett, Elizabeth Maroney. Practical music (pianoforte)—Senior division, Mabel Clarke, Alice Fischer, Violet Foote; junior division, Laura Wood; preparatory division, Hester Riddell, Dolly Sutton (violin).

Associated Board—Local centre exams., advanced grade—Amelia Smith, Alice Fischer, May Whitton. Rudiments of music, Alice Fischer. School examinations, Mary Dolan, Bessie Godsell, Iris Dixon (violin). Lower division, Kathie Bennett, Mary Batchelor, Mary O'Rorke, Johanna Fleming, Elsie Bennett. Elementary division, Alice Soandlyn, Cissie Maroney, Rita Sole.

A packed audience greeted the pupils of the Sacred Heart High School when they gave their annual concert in St. Joseph's Hall. The performance was most enjoyable, from the opening piano duet by Misses D. Sutton, Pepperell, Foote, and Godsell, to the finale, 'God defend New Zealand.' The dialogue, 'Aileen's dream,' by the junior pupils, evoked loud applause, while the senior pupils' fan dance was one of the gems of the evening. Then followed an action song, 'The handkerchief,' by the Kindergarten pupils. 'The last rose of summer' was rendered in a finished manner by Misses I. Dixon and K. Riddell (violins), and Clarke and Moore (pianos). A wee tot, Miss J. Connop, gained a vigorous encore for her recitation. Misses A. and K. MacClelland were also very successful in their dialogue, 'The daisy and the ivy.' One of the best instrumental items was the pianoforte selection by Misses Fischer and C. Clarke. The second part of the programme was taken up with the cantata, 'The children's queen,' in which Miss M. Clarke took the part of the fairy queen and Miss Q. Hawkins that of Laila. The whole performance showed signs of careful training on the part of Sisters, and of close attention on the part of the pupils. Between the two acts Misses Smith and N. Sutton played a pianoforte selection. The several accompaniments were played by the young ladies already mentioned as instrumentalists.

Among the deacons recently ordained at Manly by Cardinal Moran (says the 'Advocate') was Mr. A. MacDonald, son of Mr. Aloysius MacDonald, formerly bank manager of the Bank of New South Wales in Adelaide and now in New Zealand occupying a similar position.

Once more the dreadful Catholic 'block vote' (says the 'Freeman's Journal') was manifested in the election of Alderman Allan Taylor as Lord Mayor of Sydney, when of seven Catholics three voted for and four against—Hughes, McElhone, Barlow for; Kelly, Meagher, McIvor, and Fitzgerald against.

Referring to the discussion on the question of the decline of religion, the writer of 'Town Tattle' in the Gawler 'Bunyip' says.—'Archbishop O'Reilly is a leader of men. He is learned, clever, and astute. He is able to take a prominent part in public controversy, and to hold his own in argument. Even those who do not agree with his opinions welcome the expression of them, and any discussion which breaks up public apathy is good.'

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We have to thank Messrs. Mills, Dick, and Co. for a copy of their 'Otago, Southland, and South Canterbury Almanac and Directory' for 1905. This useful publication contains a large amount of information which will be found of interest to every class in the community, and more especially to commercial men. The Commissioners' decisions with reference to the customs tariff have been revised and corrected up to December 1, which shows that the publishers have brought the almanac up-to-date. Another interesting contribution to its usefulness is a 'Digest of the Licensing Acts,' from that of 1881 to the amending measure which was placed on the Statute book a few months ago. It is an extremely useful and informative publication, and is turned out in a very creditable manner.

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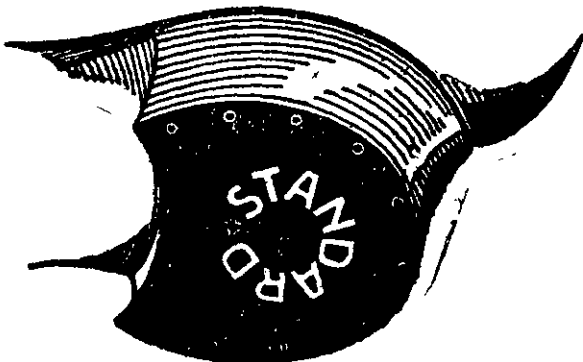
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Irish News

CORK.—The President of Queen's College

Professor Windle, the new President of Queen's College, Cork, had an enthusiastic reception from the students. Mrs. Windle, who accompanied him, was also heartily received. Replying to an address, he said he would identify himself not only with the college, but also with the city, as far as possible.

DUBLIN.—Diocesan Appointments

The Archbishop of Dublin has made the following appointments in the Diocesan Chapter:—Very Rev. T. O'Donnell, V.G., P.P., to the Chancellorship, and Very Rev. J. Baxter, P.P., Very Rev. M. Scally, P.P., and Very Rev. J. Dunne, President Holy Cross College, Clonliffe, to prebends.

Death of a Nun

On November 4 at Loreto Abbey, Rathfarnham, the interment took place of Mother M. Brigid O'Curry, last surviving daughter of Eugene O'Curry, the great Gaelic scholar and antiquarian. The deceased religious spent nearly her whole life in Loreto. In her childhood she had the privilege of knowing the foundress of the Institute of the B. V. Mary in Ireland, and to the last revered and cherished Rev. Mother Teresa Ball's memory. Mother M. Brigid filled many offices in her Order. She loved the poor, and devoted her early years in religious life in the National school attached to the Abbey. Then she taught in Kilkenny, Loreto, and Rathmines. She was Superior in Wexford and Balbriggan. Her remaining years were spent at the Alma Mater, Loreto Abbey, where many will miss her genial welcome.

LIMERICK.—Local Cement

At a recent meeting of the Limerick Harbor Board a report was read by the Engineer, submitting the results of tests made for the Department of Agriculture by a firm in London and also by himself on the sample of cement manufactured from materials procured near Limerick. The tests showed that cement 'of the best quality' can be made from those materials—'an extremely finely-ground cement, free from expansion, and considerably above the average strength.' Both tests for tensile strength were most satisfactory. The report was adopted and the hope expressed that the matter would now be taken up by capitalists.

The Freedom of the City

Mr. William O'Brien, M.P., has written to the Mayor of Limerick postponing the signing of the roll of honorary citizens of Limerick to some future occasion when the leader of the Irish Party and himself may be able to receive the honor together.

Death of an Antiquarian

The death took place recently of Mr. George James Hewson, M.A., of Holyrood, Adare, County Limerick. The deceased gentleman, who was in his 78th year, was an eminent authority on Irish antiquities, and especially with all that concerned the castles, abbeys, and historical sites in the County of Limerick.

An Enthusiastic Reception.

At Limerick on November 5 Mr. John Redmond, M.P., and Mr. William O'Brien, M.P., appeared on the same platform and met with a reception the warmth of which showed how dearly the people value unity in the ranks of the Irish Parliamentary Party. Mr. Redmond said that Mr. O'Brien's return to public life was conclusive proof that unity could be maintained with regard to Home Rule. Mr. O'Brien also spoke in a hopeful strain. They were again face to face with a live and united organisation, and all the ridiculous bogeys and hallucinations about splits and dissensions were blown sky-high.

A Successful Pupil

The following item from the 'Munster News' of October 15 gains not a little piquancy from the fact that twenty-three years ago there was no Catholic school at Knockadea: 'The list of awards in connection with Vere Foster National Competition in writing for 1904 (the 31th annual competition) has been issued, from which it appears that some 6000 competitors from all parts of the British Empire had submitted copies of the well known headlines. It is satisfactory to note that the special prize for the best copy submitted from any part of the Empire has been won by an Irish boy—Thomas Davern (aged 14 years)—of the Knockadea Boys' National Schools, Ballylanders, Limerick.'

MONAGHAN.—Carrickmacross Lace

Supporters and lovers of the Irish industrial revival will be pleased to learn that the Commissioner-General for Great Britain at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, St. Louis, U.S.A., has advised the Sisters of St. Louis, Carrickmacross, that the International Jury of Awards at the American Exposition have awarded the gold medal to the Carrickmacross lace exhibits sent to the World's Fair from their technical school at Carrickmacross.

ROSCOMMON.—A Moving Bog

A bog thousands of feet wide and ten feet deep in Roscommon has moved a mile towards and is within two miles of the adjoining township.

GENERAL.

The Royal University

Royal warrants have been issued appointing Right Hon. Lord Killanin, Sir Thomas Thomson, C.B., M.D., and Dr. Bertram C. A. Windle, President of the Queen's College, Cork, to be members of Senate of the Royal University.

Pilgrimage to Fontenoy

An Irish pilgrimage to the field of Fontenoy, Belgium, on the next anniversary of the battle, which was fought on May 11, 1745, is being organised in Dublin by Mr. John O'Leary and in London by Mr. Barry O'Brien. The Irish Brigade in the service of France played an important part in this decisive contest in the War of the Austrian Succession.

Medical Degrees

At the quarterly examinations of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, and Faculty of Physicians of Glasgow, held in Edinburgh, the following Irish candidates were successful:—First Examination, five years' course—Herbert Irvine, Ireland; George Fitzwilliam Forde, Ballygeany; and Edward Roland Porter, Belfast. Second Examination, five years' course—Charles Nyham, County Cork; Wm. Roberts, Ellis, Balla; Leo Murphy, County Cork; and Christopher Irvine M'Farlane, County Tyrone. Third Examination, five years' course—Henry Ruddock Morehead, County Cork; Daniel Kennedy, Cork; Gustavus Herbert Powell, Cork; Charles Conway Fitzgerald, Iurgan; John Clarke, Ballymena; Wm. Church, Maun, County Derry; John Lawrence Power, Cork; George Waller Meade, Cork; and Daniel Thomas Henry Crolly, Achill. Final Examination—The following passed the examination and were admitted L. and R.C.P.E. L.R.C.S.E., and L.F.P. and S.G.: James Francis O'Mahony, County Cork; John Michael Moriarty, Ireland; Jas. Ringland Lawther, County Down; James Joseph Egan, Galway; William Dick, County Tyrone; and Timothy Archdeacon, County Cork.

The Tide of Emigration

Notwithstanding the well-meant efforts of the Anti-Emigration Society and all the appeals that have been made to Irishmen to remain at home, 54,494 emigrants left Ireland during the ten months ending October 31, as compared with 42,995 in the corresponding period of last year. Making full allowance for the low trans-Atlantic rates, this is a terrible drain on an already depopulated country, and shows clearly that the means now taken to check emigration have been a failure. This is not to be wondered at. All over the country, go where you will, there are thousands seeking employment and none to be had, and no prospect of obtaining any in the near future. As Mr. John Dillon, M.P., said recently, what is the use of telling a young man or woman to remain in Ireland under these circumstances? It is heartrending to see the number of able-bodied men wandering through Dublin in search of work at present, and not able to obtain even a day's employment.

Stuffing the Public Service

Writing to the 'Spectator,' the Very Rev. Dr. Hogan, Maynooth, said that he never assumed that appointments should be made in the public service on exclusively religious lines. But it is absurd to suggest that Sir Horace Plunkett could not get amongst three and a half million Catholics a single man to fill the position of first, second, or even third assistant in the National Library of Ireland, or that there is not at the Irish Bar a Catholic capable of acting as County Court Judge in Kerry, Roscommon, Mayo, or Donegal. The fact is that Catholics, who are treated to soft words by Mr. Balfour and Mr. Wyndham, are being driven out everywhere, and the public service in Ireland is becoming every day more and more of a monopoly. Dr. Hogan, like many others, fails to see what earthly advantage is gained by the British people in turning against them the angry and resentful feelings of millions of Irish Catholics, at home and abroad.

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CLOTHIER, MERCER, & OUTFITTER, STAFFORD STREET, TIMARU.

High-class Tailoring under the management of a First-rate Cutter. Grand assortment of Tweeds, Suitings, etc. Perfect fit Guaranteed.

Irish Lace

The 'Art Workers' Quarterly' for October contains an article by Mr. M. Jourdain on design in modern needlepoint laces that should be carefully studied in Irish lace centres, notably at Kenmare, Youghal, and New Ross. Mr. Jourdain illustrates his observations with beautifully finished drawings in full size specimens of Irish lace in raised and flat needlepoint, point de France, and other laces of the nineteenth century, and his detailed critical notes on the designs and on the measure of technical skill exhibited in working them will prove of value, even if one be not disposed to agree with him in everything. His conclusion seems to be that Irish designers show a tendency to realistic imitation, they reproduce materialistic forms without any attempt at conventionalising them, that there is 'a tendency to strive for ready effect to sacrifice the minuteness and finish of handwork, "the ornament upon ornament" of the old Italian rose points which gives the quality of preciousness to lace.' The workmanship of convent-made lace in Ireland he finds technically excellent, but the designs are not always the most skillfully contrived. 'The dangers of Irish lace,' he adds, 'are two: the applying of fine threads to the interpretation of badly designed and ill-grouped forms on the one hand, and on the other hand of adopting a style of ornament which depends upon largeness of detail and massiveness in grouping, and is therefore unsuited to lace at the present day.' On the other hand, Mr. Alan Cole, of South Kensington, recognised as one of the highest authorities on lace in the Three Kingdoms, disagrees with Mr. Jourdain's criticisms of these designs, which he describes as 'artistic and beautiful,' praises one of the specimens for its 'artistic completeness' and 'the beauty of its curves and the great variety of leaves and flowers,' as well as its 'skillful and delicate workmanship.' Mr. Jourdain himself admits that the Irish lace is superior in design to many admired specimens of French laces.

The Education Question

Never for a moment (writes a Dublin correspondent) have the Archbishops and Bishops of Ireland allowed the great educational injustice from which their flocks suffer at the hands of the British Government to be forgotten by the public. In and out of season they have insisted upon the absolute right of Irish Catholics to perfect equality with Irish Protestants in educational matters. In pursuance of this policy the resolutions adopted by the Irish hierarchy at their October meeting in Maynooth, which have already been published, have been read from every altar throughout the country. The result of their continual insistence is that the justice of the Catholic demand is now freely admitted by every liberal-minded and impartial person. An insignificant number of bigots bar the way to redress. They consist of a few Orange fanatics and the Trinity College monopolists who have so long thriven on the fat of the land, to the exclusion of the great majority of the people. Lord Rossmore, late Grand Master of the Orange fraternity, has recently given the public his views of these gentlemen, derived from a long and intimate knowledge of their doings. Insignificant as they are numerically, they have, ably assisted by the bigots of Trinity, frightened the Prime Minister and his supporters in the Cabinet into perpetrating the injustice which they have publicly proclaimed exists to the great detriment of Catholic Irishmen. History shows plainly that these fanatics can never be placated or brought to a sense of justice where Catholics are concerned. The first resolution adopted by the Bishops declares that 'the rents drawn by Trinity College out of land in almost every part of Ireland, which as the outcome of confiscation have been reserved during three hundred years as a prize for a State-favored minority, are of right the inheritance of the nation at large, and should be devoted, however late in the day, to provide in an effective manner, as far as they can go, for the wants of all the people of Ireland in the domain of higher education.' To use a homely phrase, this 'hits the nail on the head.' So long as the monopolists are permitted to retain their ill-gotten gains in peace, and no longer, the great majority of Irishmen will be denied fair play. When it became known that Trinity College was excluded from the purview of the late Royal Commission many regarded the whole business as a sham, and time has proved that they were right.

During the 'speech day' proceedings at St. Stanislaus' College, Bathurst, his Lordship Bishop Dunne, having complimented the college on its progress, promised to be responsible for £1000 towards the completion of the institution.

People We Hear About

Among the Pope's treasures (says an exchange) is an egg which he received from an English lady one Easter. The shell is made of ivory, its lining is of white satin, and the yolk is a golden case containing a large ruby set in diamonds; the whole is worth upwards of £2000.

The Hon. A. Wilmot, late Postmaster-General of Cape Colony and a member of the Legislative Council, Cape Town, has been appointed a Cameriere di Cappella to his Holiness. Mr. Wilmot has long taken a deep interest in Catholic affairs, and the Right Rev. Dr. McSherry, Bishop of Justinianopolis, and Vicar-Apostolic of the Eastern District of the Cape of Good Hope in his religious work has had amongst the laity no more energetic or more influential supporter than the new Papal Chamberlain.

Mrs. Humphrey Ward, novelist, is a colonial. She was born at Hobart, Tasmania, June 11, 1851. It was at Oxford, with which her husband was associated, that Mrs. Ward began her literary work. Her earliest original work was in the form of critical articles contributed to 'Macmillan's Magazine' and to the 'Pall Mall' when under Mr. Morley's control. Of all her numerous books none has attained such popularity as 'Robert Elsmere,' issued in 1888. Over half a million copies have been sold in America alone.

It is over half a century since Florence Nightingale and her band of nurses sailed from London for the Crimea. Since then her name has been a synonym for womanly tenderness and devotion to the relief of the soldiers' sufferings. The present generation knows little of the horrors endured by the British soldiers in the Crimean campaign. Blundering incompetence has rarely inflicted greater suffering on its helpless victims. Things were at their worst when Florence Nightingale went out to organise the work of nursing the British sick and wounded. She did it thoroughly, and with a completeness that used up all her energy and strength, for since her return to England over forty years ago she has lived practically the life of an invalid.

Here was a good story of Gladstone, who was fond of loitering around the second-hand book-shop windows, and fingered the volumes which were thus displayed. If he picked up a book that interested him, he frequently became quite oblivious to his surroundings. On one of these occasions a loafer, who must have carefully studied Mr. Gladstone's habits, whispered quietly: 'Half a crown, please, sir.' Without raising his eyes from the book, Mr. Gladstone put his hand into his pocket and handed over the half-crown. A few minutes later he was going off with his prize, when the bookseller, who knew him well by sight, stopped him with the demand for one shilling, the price of the book. 'But I have already given you half a crown,' said Mr. Gladstone, and explanations followed.

Sir Francis William Brady, Bart., is to be added to the somewhat long list of public men who have survived their own obituaries. When Sir T. Francis Brady, who spent a generation as Inspector of Irish Fisheries, died recently quite a number of provincial newspapers fell into the error of confusing him with the other Sir Francis. The surviving Sir Francis is that somewhat unusual combination, a K.C., a musician, and a poet. His was the special version of 'Come back to Erin' which was written for the departure of the King and Queen from Ireland. Called to the Bar some eight-and-fifty years ago, he took silk in 1860. He is a County Court Judge and chairman of Quarter Sessions for Tyrone, and at two months over eighty still practises at the Bar.

The last week in October saw the completion of the greatest engineering work ever attempted or accomplished in the way of railroad tunnelling. In the opening of the New York subway for public service the triumph of human skill and energy over the most formidable obstacles, natural and artificial, that have ever been faced, is signally demonstrated. The tunnel, or tunnels, begun in March, 1900, extend a length of twenty-two miles. To find the boring completed and the entire line equipped for perfect railway service in so short a period as four years and a half is a fact to fill the mind with wonder and admiration. This new wonder of the world is, moreover, more wonderful still in the fact that it is the work of one man—one master mind directing the minds and hands of many. An humble Irishman, one of the peasant class, who had never had the advantage of a scientific training, is the master of this great tunnel. His was the brain to conceive it and work out the problem of its construction to the last detail. This man's name—Maddison—will go down to history as one fit to rank with the greatest of the world's engineers.



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HAVING considerably enlarged and thoroughly renovated this Old-established and Well-known Hotel, offers to the Travelling Public really

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THE HOTEL IS CENTRALLY SITUATED, being only a few minutes' walk from Railway Station and Wharves.

COMMERCIAL ROOM,
LADIES' DRAWING ROOM,
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BOTTLED ALE & STOUT.
SPEIGHT'S CELEBRATED
PRIZE ALES & STOUTS.
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MESSRS. POWLEY & KEAST
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Sottlers, Wine & Spirit Merchants.

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Corks, Tinfoil, Wire, Sypons, and all Bottlers
Requisites in Stock.

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(Late R. J. B. Yule),

SPEY STREET, INVERCARGILL.

MR. WILSON, having purchased the goodwill of Mr Yule's practice, would like patients to understand that any contracts entered into by Mr. Yule for Mechanical work or otherwise, will be carried out by him without any difference in fee. Any alterations and so on free of charge.

HOURS OF CONSULTATION—9 a.m.
to 5.30 p.m., and 7 to 8 p.m.

Hospital patients attended on Tuesday and
Friday mornings from 9 to 9.30.

IN MEMORIAM.

WE have Purchased from Mr. H. PALMER, of Princes street, his LARGE and WELL-ASSORTED STOCK of MONUMENTS, HEAD-STONES, CROSSES, and STATUETTES.

The above has been Purchased at a Large Discount of Landed Crest, and we are in a position to offer For Sale AT PRICES which CANNOT BE EQUALLED.

Designs Sent on Application.

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Corner of KING & ST. ANDREW STS.

MR CHARLES BRANSON, who for many years was at the Grand, has now assumed the management of the above Hotel, which is centrally situated at the corner of Great King Street and St. Andrew Street. At considerable cost, the whole building has undergone reconstruction. It has been greatly enlarged, furnished, and appointed, regardless of expense, making it the most comfortable Hotel in town. It comprises 18 bedrooms, bathroom, large dining, drawing, smoking, billiard, and commercial rooms. Fire escape and iron balcony completely surrounding the Hotel, giving the most ample security against fire.

Tariff—5/- per day, 25/- per week.

Permanent Boarders by arrangement

RAILWAY HOTEL
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JAMES DEALY - Proprietor.

This well-known Hotel is in close proximity to both Railway Stations, thereby offering great facility to the travelling public of being able to leave by the early Trains.

Guests may depend upon being called in time, a Porter being kept for that purpose.

The Bedrooms are well and comfortably furnished, and the Fittings and Accommodation throughout is all that could be desired.

The Wines and Spirits are all of the choicest and Best Brands. Dunedin XXXX Beer always on Tap.

Table d' Hôte daily from 12 to 2, and Meals at all hours for travellers. Free Stabling.

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DYERS & CLEANERS,

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LADIES' SKIRTS, COSTUMES, AND GENTLEMEN'S CLOTHING

CLEANED, DYED AND PRES-ED.

Suits Made to Measure from ... 50/-
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Charges Strictly Moderate.

A trial solicited.

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223 CASHIEL ST. W., CHRISTCHURCH

(Late of A. J. White's and J. Ballantyne and Co.).

Up-to-date Furniture

At Lowest Current Prices.

Call and Inspect the Stock.

Duchesse Chests...	...	45s 0d
Full Size Brass-rail Bedsteads	...	35s 0d
Full Size Kapoo Mattresses	...	25s 0d
Kapoo Pillows	...	2s 3d

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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.

We invite all who enjoy A Good Glass of Beer to ask for
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On Draught at almost all Hotels in the City and surrounding districts And confidently anticipate their verdict will be that STAPLES AND CO. have successfully removed the reproach that Good Beer could not be brewed in Wellington.

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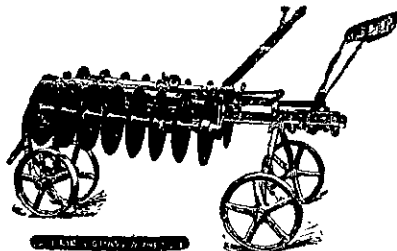
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Light, Cool, Watertight, Everlasting, Inexpensive.

Uniform Colour throughout. Every Roof Guaranteed

Past Works.—Such as Dunedin Convent Oamaru Convent, Clyde Church, Holy Trinity Church Port Chalmers, Dunedin Car House, Gore Post Office, Creosote Works, Invercargill, numerous Private Residences, particularly in High Street, Dunedin, and in Roslyn, SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES

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Estimates Given of any work. These are carried out by our RESIDENT EXPERTS, and WHICH WE GUARANTEE.

The most PICTURESQUE ROOF for either Private or Public Buildings.

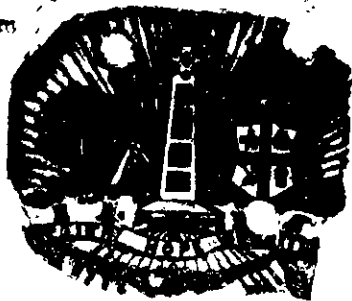
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NEW ZEALAND DISTRICT, No. 3.

The Catholic Community is earnestly requested to support this excellent Organisation, for it inculcates a love of Holy Faith and Patriotism in addition to the unsurpassed benefits and privileges of Membership.

The Entrance Fees are from 2s 6d to £4, according to age at time of Admission.

Sick Benefits 20s per week for 26 weeks, 15s per week for the next 13 weeks, and 10s a week for the following 13 weeks. In case of a further continuance of his illness a member of Seven Years' Standing previous to the commencement of such illness will be allowed 5s per week as superannuation during incapacity.

Funeral Allowance, £20 at the death of a Member, and £10 at the death of a Member's Wife.

In addition to the foregoing provision is made for the admission of Honorary Members, Reduced Benefit Members, and the establishment of Sisters' Branches and Juvenile Contingents. Full information may be obtained from Local Branch Officers or direct from the District Secretary.

The District Officers are anxious to open New Branches, and will give all possible assistance and information to applicants Branches being established in the various centres throughout the Colonies an invaluable measure of reciprocity obtains.

W. KANE,

District Secretary,

Auckland

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Visitors can rely on obtaining the very best accommodation.

Only the best brands of Wine, Spirits, and Beers stocked.

Commercial

(For week ending December 28, 1904.)

PRODUCE.

London, December 23.—Butter is quiet and weaker. Danish, 113/-; choicest Victorian, 98/- to 100/-; New South Wales, 96/- to 98/-. Prices are nominal owing to the fog preventing the delivery of the bulk of the last Australian consignments; 102/- is asked for the next arrivals from New Zealand.

Wheat.—The markets are quiet, and cargoes are dull; 15,000 quarters Australian January and February shipments, 32/9.

Invercargill prices current.—Wholesale — Butter farm, 5d; separator, 7d; butter, factory, pats, 10½d. Eggs, 8d per dozen. Cheese (factory), 6½d. Hams, 2/- to 2/6. Chaff, £2/5/- per ton (bags weighed in). Barley, 2/- to 2/6. Flour, £10/10 to £11/10. Oatmeal, £8/10/- to £9. Bran, £3/15/-. Pollard, £5. Retail—Farm butter, 7d; separator, 9d; butter, factory, pats, 1/-; Cheese, 6d to 8d. Eggs, 10d per doz. Bacon, 9d. Hams, 10d. Potatoes, 4/- per cwt. Flour: 200lb, 23/-; 50lb, 6/6. Oatmeal: 50lb, 5/3; 25lb, 2/9. Pollard, 8/6 per bag. Bran, 4/6. Chaff, 1/6.

WOOL.

DUNEDIN WOOL SALES.

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

We held our first wool sale of the season's series at the Victoria Hall, Agricultural Buildings, Dunedin, on Thursday, December 22, 1904, when we submitted a catalogue comprising 1227 bales of crossbred, Leicester, and merino wools, chiefly farmers' lots grown on the Coast districts. There was a large attendance of buyers—English, foreign, colonial, and local manufacturers and wool staplers being very fully represented—who were very keen on business, and competed with much spirit for the different classes of wool offered, which suited their requirements, and this resulted in a brisk and most satisfactory sale. There was also a fair attendance of wool growers, shippers, and others interested in the trade, who evinced a keen interest in the proceedings, and appeared satisfied with the prices realised.

The wools displayed by us were largely composed of clips of sheep which had been wintered on turnips, and these, although well grown and sound in staple, were, with some few exceptions, rather dark colored, earth-stained, and heavy, and lacked the bright, lustrous appearance (so attractive to buyers) which characterises the clip of flocks which have been well wintered on grass pastures. All the wools catalogued by us were, however, comparatively free from tick stains, and the fibre sound and strong, showing that the sheep had been well nourished and cared for throughout the season.

It was quite expected that there would be a substantial rise, estimated at from 1½d to 2½d, in values as compared with those ruling last season, and this satisfactory result was fully secured, chiefly by the brisk competition made on behalf of American trade. Half-breds showed a rise of 1½d to 2½d as compared with the top price of the corresponding sale of last season; crossbreds and Leicesters showed a rise of 2d to 3d, and merinos a rise of about 1d to 1½d per lb.

The total number of bales catalogued by the various brokers for the series was 5627 bales. Of the 1227 bales catalogued by us, 1078 bales were sold under the hammer, 86 bales were passed in, bidding not being up to valuations or reserves, and 63 bales were withdrawn, the clip not being complete.

Bidding throughout our sale was very well maintained up to the values above named, and for special lots of the more lustrous wool there was very animated competition, resulting in one of the best sales it has been our good fortune to conduct, nearly every lot, either at auction or privately afterwards, being placed at full values.

LIVE STOCK

THE ADDINGTON MARKET.

There were full entries at Addington in all departments, comprising 8745 sheep, 695 cattle, and 459 pigs.

Fat Cattle.—About 200 head were yarded, of which a large proportion did not answer to the description of Christmas beef. Really prime beasts were about 10/- per head down from last week's rates, but on unfinished stock the fall was as much as £1, with few buyers. The best beef sold at the rate of 22/- to 23/6 per 100lb; ordinary, 20/- to 21/6.

Fat Sheep.—The entry was large and included some very prime lines of wethers, which met with keen competition from both branches of the trade at full recent values; a good selection of prime ewes, which butchers absorbed at a small reduction; and the usual summer offering of old and heavy ewes, which were not in request, and suffered a fall of 1/- to 2/- from last week's rates. Prices current were as follows: Crossbred wethers, good to prime, 20/- to 23/6; others, 17/6 to 19/6; ewes, good to prime, 18/- to 19/6; extra, to 22/6; medium, 15/6 to 17/6; old, 11/9 to 15/-; merino wethers, medium, 14/4 to 15/9.

Fat Lambs.—There was a large entry, and the quality generally was good. All really fat lots sold at an advance of 6d to 1/- on last week's rates, butchers bidding freely to fill Christmas requirements, while exporters were equally desirous of filling their space in the 'Gothic.' Secondary lines held their previous values, and about 1000 were taken for export, the balance (700) going to butchers. Prime lots made 18/- to 20/-; extra, to 21/8; others, from 14/9.

Store Sheep.—The yarding was the largest for some months. The demand was active, and recent values were well maintained.

Pigs.—There was a large and good entry of fat pigs, and buyers showed some reserve. Prices, however, were fairly well maintained. Prime baconers sold at 38/- to 55/-, equal to 4d to 4½d per lb; porkers at 25/- to 32/-, or 4½d to 4¾d per lb; large stores, 25/- to 30/-; and a few very good Berkshires from Otago Islands at 32/-; medium, 18/- to 24/-; small, 12/- to 16/-; suckers, 8/- to 10/-.

MASTERTON

(From our own correspondent.)

December 23.

A general meeting of the St. Patrick's Day Sports' Association was held on Saturday evening, when there was a large attendance of members, Mr. M. C. O'Connell presiding. The programme as submitted by the committee was adopted. It provides for the giving of prizes to the value of £130, the two principal events being a St. Patrick's Day Handicap of £35, and a wheel race of £11. Mr. Alec Shannon was appointed handicapper.

Owing to the large district that the Very Rev. Dean McKenna has had to attend to he will in future be assisted by the Rev. Father Kelly, who arrived in the Colony from Ireland a couple of weeks ago. Father Kelly preached his first sermon at St. Patrick's Church on Sunday last.

The ladies' committee of St. Bride's Convent bazaar met last evening. Signor Borvoni wrote notifying that he would be able to commence rehearsals early in January. The ladies reported that they were receiving very liberal support, so that there is every prospect of a very successful bazaar.

Great regret is felt at the departure for Australia of Sisters Claver and Teresa, of St. Bride's Convent. The Sisters have been in Masterton since the convent was started five years ago. They have not been allowed to depart without many marks of the esteem in which they are held.

WAIMATE

(From our own correspondent.)

December 26.

The annual prize-giving in connection with St. Patrick's School took place in the schoolroom on Friday last. Before the distribution took place a number of musical items were gone through by the pupils most creditably.

One of the most successful entertainments ever held in Waimate was given on Tuesday, December 20, in the Oddfellows' Hall, when the members of St. Patrick's Dramatic Club made their first appearance in public. The play selected was the comedy, 'Her Second Husband.' The performance went with a swing from start to finish, being free from long waits and prompting, usually the case in amateur performances. The members are to be congratulated for the way in which they carried out their parts. The following took part in the performance:—Misses Crowley, A. Patterson, Kent, and Costello, Messrs. Sims, Reid, Costello, and Hackey.

On Christmas Day there were Masses at 7 and 9 o'clock, and at 11 o'clock a Missa Cantata was celebrated by the Rev. Father O'Connor. The choir rendered Farmer's Mass in B flat, the soloists being Misses Kent and Sims, Mrs. J. T. Quinn, and Messrs. O'Shea and Goldstone. The church was tastefully decorated, the work of the Sisters of St. Joseph.

South British Fire and Marine Insurance Company.

OF NEW ZEALAND.

Capital	£1,900,000
Paid up Capital. Reserves & Undivided Profits Exceed	£420,000
Net Annual Revenue Exceeds	£235,000

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Good Accommodation for the Travelling Public.

Best Brands of Ales, Wines, and

THOMAS DAILY

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Close to Train and Tram and Wharf. Splendid View of Harbour

Tariff 4s. 6d. per day.

EXCELLENT TABLE

THOS. G. PATRICK

FAMILY BUTCHER,

MACLAGGAN STREET (Next A. and J

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SILVERINE

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R.

NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS, 1905.

NEW ZEALAND RAILWAYS.

The following ALTERATIONS in, and ADDITIONS to, the Ordinary Time-table will be made in connection with the above:—

SATURDAY, 31st DECEMBER.

Train will leave Dunedin for Christchurch, Oamaru, and Intermediate Stations at 10.40 p.m.

Trains will leave Dunedin for Oamaru and Intermediate Stations at 11.20 p.m. WILL NOT stop between Pelichet Bay and Upper Port Chalmers inclusive, except to pick up passengers for north of Upper Port Chalmers.

Trains will leave Dunedin for Invercargill and Intermediate Stations at 11.22 p.m.

MONDAY, 2nd JANUARY.

SPORTS AT OAMARU AND MIDDLEMARCH.

RACES AT WAIKOUAITI.

Holiday Excursion Tickets to Oamaru, Waitati, and Intermediate Stations WILL NOT be available by the Up Mail Train leaving Dunedin at 8.0 a.m.

Special Express Train will leave Dunedin for Oamaru at 7.30 a.m. Will stop at Ravensbourne, Upper Port Chalmers, Waitati, Seacliff, Waikouaiti, Palmerston, Shag Point Junction, Hillgrove, and Hampden only.

Special Express Train will leave Oamaru at 5.45 p.m., Dunedin arrive 9.30 p.m. Will stop at Hampden, Palmerston, Waikouaiti, Seacliff, Waitati, Upper Port Chalmers, and Ravensbourne only.

Train will leave Oamaru for Dunedin and Intermediate Stations at 10.15 p.m.

The Down Mail Train WILL NOT stop at Waikouaiti. The Train usually leaving Dunedin for Port Chalmers at 7.8 a.m. WILL NOT leave till 7.13 a.m.

Trains will leave Dunedin for Palmerston and Intermediate Stations at 8.15 a.m., 9.15 a.m., 9.50 a.m., and 10.30 a.m.

Return Trains leave Palmerston at 3.34 p.m., 4.20 p.m., 4.55 p.m., and 6.10 p.m., arriving Dunedin at 6.48 p.m., 7.11 p.m., 8.25 p.m., and 9.10 p.m. respectively.

Train will leave Dunedin for Milton and Intermediate Stations at 9.40 a.m., returning leaving Milton at 4.30 p.m.

Train will leave Mosgiel for Dunedin at 7.45 p.m.

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

The Train usually leaving Mosgiel for Dunedin at 11.40 p.m. WILL LEAVE at 11.25 p.m.

Train will leave Dunedin for Middlemarch at 8.20 a.m.

Trains will leave Middlemarch for Dunedin at 2.15 p.m., 5.0 p.m., and 6.35 p.m.

The 5.5 a.m. Palmerston-Dunedin Train and the 5.45 a.m. Dunedin-Palmerston Train WILL NOT run.

TUESDAY, 3rd JANUARY.

Holiday Excursion Tickets to Waitati, Seacliff, or Waikouaiti WILL NOT be available by the Up Mail Train leaving Dunedin at 8 a.m.

Trains will leave Dunedin for Palmerston and Intermediate Stations at 8.15 a.m., 9.15 a.m., and 9.50 a.m., returning leaving Palmerston at 3.34 p.m., 4.20 p.m., and 4.55 p.m.

Trains will leave Oamaru for Dunedin and Intermediate Stations at 10.15 p.m.

Train will leave Dunedin for Milton and Intermediate Stations at 9.40 a.m., returning leaving Milton at 4.30 p.m.

Train will leave Mosgiel for Dunedin at 7.45 p.m.

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

The Train usually leaving Mosgiel for Dunedin at 11.40 p.m. WILL LEAVE at 11.25 p.m.

The 5.45 a.m. Dunedin-Palmerston Train and the 7.50 p.m. Dunedin-Invercargill Train WILL NOT run.

Train will leave Dunedin for Christchurch, Oamaru, and Intermediate Stations at 8.50 p.m.

Train will leave Dunedin for Invercargill at 9.0 p.m. Will stop at any station south of Mosgiel to allow passengers to alight.

Goods and Live Stock Traffic will be SUSPENDED on 2nd and 3rd January.

For further particulars see Posters and Handbills.

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Wood-Chopping Competition (Second Day)	...	...	27 0 0
Quoiting	...	...	8 10 0

FOR DETAILS SEE PROGRAMME.

ENTRIES for Running and Walking Close at the Society's Office, 27 Rattray street, at 8 p.m. on MONDAY, 19th December; Cycling, on Tuesday, 20th December, at 5 p.m.; for all other events on WEDNESDAY, 28th December, at 8 p.m.

Entry Money for Dunedin and Caledonian Handicaps, 3s 6d each distance; all Events with prize money exceeding £6 for first prize, 3s 6d; Wrestling, 3s 6d; for all other Events, 2s 6d; Youths' Races, 1s.

Programmes can be obtained from the Directors, or at the Society's Office, 27 Rattray street.

Side Shows of every description, and Luncheon, Fruit, and Refreshment Booths will be conducted on usual liberal lines.

WILLIAM REID, Secretary,
27 Rattray street.

A few Sundays ago Archbishop Kelly blessed and opened a new Church on the Kurrajong (Richmond parish), which has cost £700.

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Students not preparing for the learned Professions have the advantage of a Special Commercial Course, under efficient management, where they are taught all that will be of use in mercantile pursuits.

Special attention is also paid to the teaching of Physical Science, for which purpose the College possesses a large Laboratory and Demonstration Hall. Vocal Music, Elocution, Drawing, and all other branches of a Liberal Education receive due attention.

Physical culture is attended to by a competent Drill Instructor who trains the students three times a week in Drill, Rifle Practice and Gymnastics. A large and well-equipped Gymnasium is attached to the College.

The religious and moral training of the pupils is an object of special care, and particular attention is bestowed on the teaching of Christian Doctrine.

A well-appointed Infirmary attached to the College is under the charge of the Sisters of Compassion, from whom in case of illness all students receive the most tender and devoted care, and who at all times pay particular attention to the younger and more delicate pupils, who without such care would find the absence of home comforts very trying.

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The College is large and commodious. It is built in brick, on concrete foundations. To secure dryness, all its outer walls are cemented; and to guard against fire, the inner walls are plastered and the ceilings built in steel. The dormitories are large and lofty, the class rooms well lighted and ventilated, and the baths supplied with water hot and cold.

For a Boarding School, Auckland possesses unique advantages. It enjoys an immunity from extremes of heat and cold, possesses a mild and salubrious climate, and has scenic surroundings that have made it the favorite city of New Zealand to reside in.

The great object of the Brothers is to give their pupils a Sound Religious Training, to teach them to be virtuous, and to accustom them to the regular practice of their religious duties, and at the same time to impart to them a knowledge of such subjects as will qualify them for Public Examinations, fit them for commercial and professional pursuits, and enable them to discharge the duties of their after-life with honor to religion, benefit to the State, and credit to themselves.

Students are prepared for MATRICULATION, CIVIL SERVICE, MEDICAL ENTRANCE, and SOLICITORS' GENERAL KNOWLEDGE Examinations. The Pension is 35 Guineas per annum. A reduction of three guineas is made in favor of Brothers. Prospectuses on application to the Director.

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DEATH.

FENNESSY.—On the 26th December, at Naseby Hospital,
Michael, the beloved son of M. Fennessy; aged 27 years.—R.I.P.



*To promote the cause of Religion and Justice by the
ways of Truth and Peace.*

LEO. XIII. to the N.Z. TABLET

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1904.

THE FRENCH SCANDAL.



SOME years ago some Grand or Upright-Grand or Semi-Grand of an Auckland lodge hacked at the Church because she cannot bring herself to bestow her benison on Freemasonry any more than she did or does on the Carbonari, the Mafia, the Mala Vita, the International, the Invincibles, or any other of the secret, oath-bound associations that are burrowing like rats in cellars or sitting like

bats in gloomy caves beneath the surface of social and political life throughout the world. The Church's opposition to dark-lantern associations is well known. Freemasonry in particular has been repeatedly condemned by Popes. This condemnation is based partly on general Christian principles, partly upon a long and intimate knowledge of the practices of the brotherhood such as is comparatively inaccessible to the great body of the rank and file of its members. Briefly, the Church condemns the Society (1) because of its secrecy; (2) because of the unlawful oaths taken by its members; (3) because of its peculiar religious tenets; and (4) because of the atrocious war which the great body of the fraternity have waged and are waging against religion over widely separated portions of the earth.

The Grand Orient in France, for instance, boasts—and it is no idle or empty boast—that it is at the head of the fierce persecution that has so long been raging in that unhappy and grievously misgoverned land. A few

weeks ago the French Chamber of Deputies rang with the revelations of lodge espionage and tyranny which were made before it by a prominent Nationalist member, M. Guyot de Villeneuve. The revelations prove what a menace Freemasonry is to the State as well as to the Church, and they shook the Chamber to such purpose that the Government was saved from disaster only by the narrow majority of four votes. Stated in summary terms, the facts, which we glean from Home and foreign papers, run as follow: A number of leading Freemasons decided to secure for the Craft the control of appointments in the army, and they have done this in a way so thorough-going as to threaten the very organisation of France's last resort—her military forces. 'The idea,' says the 'Glasgow Observer' of November 5, 'originated with Commandant Pasquier, Governor of the Cherche-Midi Military Prison, who has great influence at the War Office, and who took into his confidence the leaders of the French Masonic organisation, the "Grand Orient de France." A confidential circular was issued by the Grand Orient to all the Freemason officers and non-commissioned officers requesting them to obtain and send to the Masonic headquarters confidential information upon the colleagues which the chance of garrison life brought into contact with them; the information wanted was set forth in the following questions:—

- '1. Families of the father and of the mother of the officer.
- '2. Families of the father and of the mother of the officer's wife.
- '3. The schools and colleges in which the officer and his wife have been educated.
- '4. The clubs or associations or societies of which they are or have been members.
- '5. Their religious views and practices.
- '6. The schools to which they send the children.
- '7. Their social standing and relations.
- '8. The shooting or hunting parties to which they are generally invited.
- '9. Are they anti-semites?'

To their credit, the souls of a few officers who are leading members of the fraternity revolted against this organised system of espionage. The remainder swallowed their scruples, if they had any, and entered with zeal upon a task that is so degrading to the character of anyone who claims to be 'an officer and a gentleman.' Before last New Year's Day secret reports were sent in affecting 12,000 officers. These were sorted and pigeon-holed by M. Vadeкарd, General Secretary of the Grand Orient, and by him communicated to the War Office, with the knowledge and approval of the Masonic General Andre, the Minister of War. This pliant tool of the dark-lanternists appointed three officers—Colonel Jacquot, Commandant Bernard, and Captain Mollin—to deal with the steady stream of reports reaching the War Office through the Masonic organisation. Mollin was the official spokesman of the wretched triumvirate and, says our Glasgow contemporary, he 'never failed to take the opinion of "dear brother Vadeкарd" whenever any promotions were to be made or honors given, or to write informing him that all the names to which the Grand Orient objected were struck off, although the officers in question were otherwise qualified for promotion, and that those whom they recommended were promoted or decorated, although their time had not yet quite arrived.' Relentless tyranny was exercised in persecuting and barring the promotion of officers who dared to practise their religion, or to send their children to Catholic schools, or who were suspected of being well disposed towards Catholic institutions, or whose relatives or wives' relatives, manifested any love for the Old Faith that was the pride of France in the days when she was truly great. Here are two average samples of the manner in which this underground Masonic spying is made to operate against officers suspected of a leaning towards the Catholic faith:—

'Remy, commander of artillery at headquarters staff of the 20th corps, has two daughters in a religious institution. His wife takes part in all the parish

work of the parish priest of Saint Sebastian, who formerly directed the "ex-journal" the "Croix de l'Etat," General de la Begassiere, formerly a commander-in-chief of artillery, and now at Tunis, is an intimate friend of the Bishop of Nancy.

Reports were even sent in by the Masonic spies regarding the newspapers read by fellow-officers, and every encouragement was given by the Grand Orient and the War Office for the play of personal jealousy and religious and political hate in the army.

For two deadly hours M. de Villeneuve lashed the Grand Orient and the War Office with the body of relentless original documents, covering the past four years, which he held in his hands. M. Combes essayed to create a diversion and shield his colleague. It was in vain. After a long debate the Chamber of Deputies, by 282 to 278, voted a denunciation of the War Office methods, if true as revealed by M. de Villeneuve. A clause censuring the espionage and informing was passed unanimously and by acclamation. A motion expressing confidence in the Minister of War was squeezed through by the narrow majority of four, which is practically a vote of censure on General Andre. Since then events have been moving pretty rapidly. Three Parisian papers have been publishing facsimiles of Freemason-War Office documents; the authenticity of these documents and those read by M. de Villeneuve are declared thoroughly authentic; Captain Mollin has resigned his position at the War Office and retired from the army; and a few days later a fire 'broke out' in General Andre's office, and the 'Matin' (an anti-clerical organ) not unnaturally infers that 'the compromising dossiers and registers containing the detective notes on generals, colonels, and others were being burned.' The Grand Orient has essayed a defence of its infamy. Brother Vadecard has issued a summons against M. de Villeneuve 'for complicity in the theft of documents from his office.' Vadecard's assistant secretary—the only other person besides Vadecard who had access to the documents—suddenly bolted when the trouble arose. M. de Villeneuve roundly declared that he would compel General Andre to resign, and that he 'has up his sleeve documents still more sensational than those read out by him in the Chamber of Deputies.' And, sure enough, Andre did resign! He was jettisoned by Combes, who (as a London contemporary remarks) 'naturally wished to relieve his Cabinet of the weight of unpopularity which must accrue to it from the revelations which had been made concerning the administration of the War Office.' The whole case out-Dreyfuses the Dreyfus case. But, strange to say, New Zealand papers, which sounded the loud timbrel so noisily over the Jewish captain and the Nancy runs, are, thus far, as silent as the grave over the worst conspiracy, the gravest public scandal that has taken place in European politics for more than a generation.

Notes

Toleration in Japan.

Emperor Mutsuhito began to reign over Japan in the second month of 1868. He also broke up the old feudal system, became the country's effective ruler, and witnessed and encouraged the invasion of western ideas which lifted Japan in less than a generation to the position of a Great Power. In one respect, however, Mutsuhito's reign had a bad beginning. His Government's first act was to revive the old-standing proscription against the exercise of the Christian religion within the long and straggling boundaries of Japan. Nor was the law allowed to be a dead letter. The representatives of the Western Powers remonstrated. Mutsuhito and his counsellors experienced in time a change of heart, and all restrictions on the practice of Christianity were abolished in 1872. When Jap and Russ began to hack and hew each other early in the present year, there were many who feared that the

feeling against the Czar and his Orthodox counsellors and fighting men would overflow upon Christians of other faiths resident in Japan and revive the days of religious persecution. But, says the 'Catholic Times,' 'experience has proved that the tolerance of the Japanese has not abated, and it is not likely to abate. In the four dioceses into which the country is divided there has of late been a steady increase in the number of Catholics, which is now about 56,000. It is true the Church is not nearly as strong in Japan at present as it was in days prior to the great persecutions, when the number of Catholics amounted to over 2,000,000, but the prospects of rapid progress after the war are bright. On March 17, 1865, when Father Petitjean was endeavoring to revive the Faith in Japan, a very noteworthy incident occurred to him. Three women approached him in his little church and put three questions to him: '1st. Have you a Pope? 2nd. Do you pray to the Blessed Virgin? 3rd. Are you married?' Having answered the questions and made further inquiries the priest found that there were groups of Catholics scattered through the country, who had handed down the Faith from father to son during almost three centuries, mutilating the doctrine to some extent, but preserving substantially what had been the treasure of their martyred ancestors. Pope Pius IX was so much moved by this wonderful event that he made the 17th of March in Japan a solemn Feast, to be celebrated under the title of "The Finding of the Christians."

An Inebriates' Home.

The stars in their courses seem to have fought against the Inebriates' Home at Waitati. As an experiment, it was, perhaps, worth trying. Being tried, it certainly was well worth giving up. And this the Government have resolved upon. 'What do you consider the best line in my poem?' asked a budding torturer of reluctant rhymes. 'The last,' was the critic's cruel reply. The last act is also the best in the history of the Waitati inebriates' retreat.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

Midnight Mass was celebrated at Christmas in Balclutha. There was a very large attendance of devout worshippers.

The Very Rev. Father Brown, S.J., completed the series of missions in the parish of Lawrence on last Sunday. On Monday he proceeded to Dunedin, and during the week sets out for Hokitika.

The Hon. John Meagher, M.L.C., so well known in commercial, political, and Catholic religious life in New South Wales, spent a few days in Dunedin, arriving on Friday of last week. He was welcomed by the Bishop and clergy, and attended the banquet given by the Right Rev. Dr. Verdon on Monday. The distinguished visitor returns to the Hot Lakes this week.

In addition to Masses at 7 and 9 o'clock at St. Patrick's Basilica, South Dunedin, on Christmas Day, a Missa Cantata was celebrated at 11 o'clock by the Rev. Father Corcoran, the sermon being preached by the Rev. Father Coffey. The music was Farmer's Mass in B flat, which was rendered in an exceptionally creditable manner by the choir, assisted by an efficient orchestra. The soloists were Misses Creagh and Mahoney (sopranos), Miss Fitzpatrick (alto), Mr. J. P. Matheson (tenor), and Messrs. Kerr and E. Bush (bass). During the offertory Novello's setting of the 'Adestes Fideles' was sung, the soloists being Misses Carr and Kerr and Messrs. McEvoy and E. Bush. Mr. Eagar conducted, and Mrs. Eagar presided at the organ. The orchestra played the 'March of the Priests' as an outgoing voluntary.

At the early Mass at St. Joseph's Cathedral on Christmas Day large numbers approached the Holy Table. At 11 o'clock Pontifical High Mass was celebrated by his Lordship the Bishop, Rev. Father Cleary being assistant priest, Rev. Father Murphy (Aidm.) deacon, and Rev. Father O'Malley subdeacon. The sermon on the Gospel of the day was preached by the Rev. Father Murphy. The choir rendered Beethoven's Mass in C in a very capable manner. The soloists were Miss Fraser (soprano), Mrs. Power (alto), Mr. P. Carolin (tenor), and Messrs. Woods and Hussey (bass). As

an offertory piece the 'Adeste Fideles' was rendered, the solo parts being taken by Misses Pounds and Drumm and Messrs. Smith and McGrath. Mr. A. Vallis presided at the organ and Mr. Feil conducted. The organist played as an outgoing voluntary 'Offertoire sur deux Noels.' The decorations were in excellent taste and effective, and were confined principally to the high altar, over which were the words, 'Gloria in Excelsis Deo.' To the right of the main entrance was the crib. After Mass the choir were entertained by his Lordship the Bishop, who complimented them on the manner in which the music was rendered, and on the progress made by them during the year. In the evening there was a very large congregation, when the Rev. Father Claffey, S.J., preached on the Nativity.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

December 24.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood will leave Naples in February by the 'Orontes,' and is expected in Sydney about the second week in March.

Miss Teresa Fitzgibbon, who was injured on Tuesday by the explosion of a cartridge that had somehow found its way amongst the coal, is progressing splendidly. No serious consequences are expected.

On Thursday evening the Marist Brothers at the Boulcott street school were entertained by the members of the local Catholic Club. The chair was occupied by the Rev. Father Kimbell, who was supported on his right by Brother Paul and Rev. Fathers Holley and Moloney, and on his left by Messrs. Martin Kennedy and Devine. The following toasts were duly honored: 'The Pope and King,' proposed by the chairman; 'The Clergy,' proposed by Mr. F. McDonald and responded to by Rev. Father Holley; 'The Old School,' by Mr. Casey, and replied to by Brother Paul; 'Catholic Education,' by Mr. J. J. Devine, replied to by Mr. Martin Kennedy; 'The Catholic Club' by Brother Paul, and replied to by Mr. J. McGowan; 'The Federation,' by Mr. John Callaghan, replied to by Mr. E. Fitzgibbon; 'The Chairman,' by Mr. McKeown. Songs were contributed by Rev. Father Moloney, Messrs. Miller, Gamble, Healy, Lawless, and L. Dwan, a violin solo by Mr. M. Gleeson, and a flute solo by Mr. McDonald. Rev. Father Kimbell played the accompaniments. A very enjoyable evening was brought to a close by cheers for the Brothers, the vice-presidents, and the rev. chairman. Mr. Devine, in proposing the toast of 'Catholic Education,' briefly sketched the history of Catholic education in Wellington. He had witnessed its birth, and he had watched its growth. The framers of the Education Act had hoped to crush Catholicity by divorcing religion from education. Those who to-day were found foremost in the agitation for Bible-reading in schools were of the same belief and persuasion as those who first desired secular education. The sparseness of their congregations and the general falling off in the morals of the people as a consequence of the new education had taught them the folly of their actions. Our course in this matter, in which we had followed the lead and advice of our clergy, had been amply justified. The masses of our people made sacrifices to provide primary schools, they made sacrifices to provide secondary schools, and who would doubt that perhaps a Catholic university would be established in the future. The older people had done their duty. They had planted the standard. It was the work of the young men present that night to keep that flag flying.

Mr. Martin Kennedy, in reply, expressed the great pleasure it gave him to be present that evening with such companionable young men. He had listened with pleasure to the many interesting speeches given by the young men. He took the opportunity to tell them of the state of things in a land in which most of them were interested. During his recent visit to Ireland he found that a great improvement in the condition of the people had been effected. A small measure of local government had been secured, and the present prospects of securing a larger measure were very bright. He found that the zeal of the people in the matter of their religion was as great as ever. There was no falling off in this respect. Wherever he went in England or in Ireland he found that the Catholic faith was as strong and as victorious as ever. The Catholics were very determined on the education question. They had done much and were prepared to do more. He was deeply interested in the young men movement, and promised that if he had been at all remiss in the past he would

be more interested in this respect for the future. He thanked them all for the hearing they gave him and again expressed his pleasure to be with them.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

December 26.

A bazaar in aid of the local Catholic presbytery fund was opened at Lyttelton on Christmas Eve by Mr. George Laursen, M.H.R. It is to remain open for a week.

Much to the sorrow of the congregation his Lordship the Bishop, owing to indisposition which all trust is only temporary, was unable to take part in the ceremonies of Christmas Day in the Pro-Cathedral.

The Sisters of the Mission completed their annual retreat last week, which was conducted by the Rev. Father O'Donnell, C.S.S.R. The Sisters of Mercy go into retreat this week, which is to be conducted by the Rev. Father Pidgeon, C.S.S.R.

The Marist Brothers in the Colony have arranged for separate retreats this year. Those of the North Island are to assemble as usual at the Sacred Heart College, Auckland, and those of the South Island at Christchurch.

Christmas Day was the anniversary of the blessing and solemn opening of the Pro-Cathedral by the late Bishop Viard, S.M. The actual date was Christmas Day, 1864, but during the 40 years since then many additions and improvements have been effected on the original building. The church secretary (Mr. E. O'Connor) has been at his post all these years, and on Sunday he remarked in terms akin to sorrow that it would be the last great festival observed within those walls.

At the Pro-Cathedral on Christmas Day Masses were celebrated every half-hour until half-past nine. There was Solemn High Mass at 11 o'clock, the Rev. Father O'Connell being celebrant, the Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chénais deacon, and Rev. Father Mahony subdeacon. The Very Rev. Vicar-General briefly addressed the congregation on the day's festival. The music was Birchell's Mass, the leading parts being taken by Miss F. Gardner, Mrs. Costello, Messrs. A. Medhurst and J. R. Hayward. Miss Katie Young was at the organ. Mr. E. J. Painter led an orchestra and Mr. H. Rossiter conducted. At the offertory Novello's 'Adeste Fideles' was sung. The nave, sanctuary, high and side altars were tastefully decorated under the supervision of the sacristan, Mr. F. Geoghegan, with the assistance of several willing workers. Miss White, with her usual kindness, furnished many beautiful palms, which very materially enhanced the general effect. At Vespers the Rev. Father Pidgeon, C.S.S.R., preached.

The solemn opening of the new Cathedral is definitely fixed for Sunday, February 12. The order of ceremonies is as follows:—Sunday, at 11 a.m., solemn blessing and dedication by his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne, assisted by prelates from Australia and New Zealand. Pontifical High Mass will be sung by one of the visiting prelates, and special music will be rendered by a combined choir. The dedication sermon will be preached by his Grace the Coadjutor-Archbishop of Sydney. In the evening there will be Pontifical Vespers and a sermon by his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne. On Monday and Tuesday there will be Masses from 6 to 8, Pontifical High Mass at 9 o'clock, and in the evenings a sermon by one of the visiting prelates. On Wednesday morning Masses 6 to 8, Pontifical High Mass at 9 o'clock, and sermon by one of the visiting prelates. On Thursday evening there will be a conversation by the Hibernian Society of Christchurch, assisted by diocesan branches, in honor of the prelates and clergy. Travelling arrangements at reduced rates have been made so as to enable visitors to attend the ceremonies.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

December 22.

Rev. Father Rogers, of Sydney, is at present on a visit here.

Rev. Fathers Grace and Bridge left for Sydney by the 'Oceanic' last Tuesday.

The interior of St. Patrick's has, during the last week, been thoroughly renovated.

The annual distribution of prizes and entertainments in connection with our schools have taken place within the last fortnight. The latter exhibited the latent talents of our boys and girls to a degree that cannot be otherwise than highly satisfactory to all concerned.

An innovation will this year be given a trial by the St. Patrick's Day celebration committee. Among all

parishes outside the city which sell tickets for the art union and sports on St. Patrick's Day, one-third of the proceeds of such sale will be divided. The committee also intend giving a prize of three guineas to the person who will sell the greatest number of tickets.

A tribute has been paid by his Lordship the Bishop to the memory of a generous man. The site whereon the present Marist Brothers' School stands was given by the late Mr. John Campbell, and to commemorate his name the Bishop has given a gold medal to the boy who attends school most regularly, and to call it 'The Campbell Medal.' The first to win it was Master Dillon Brown, son of Mr. Michael Brown.

YOUNG MEN IN COUNCIL.

The annual Conference of the Federated Catholic Young Men's Societies of New Zealand was formally opened in St. Joseph's Hall, Dunedin, on Christmas Day, but owing to the non-arrival of the delegates from Wellington the meeting was adjourned until Monday evening. On Sunday afternoon the visitors were shown around the city and suburbs by Messrs. T. Deehan, T. Hussey, and D. Columb (of the Dunedin Society), and Messrs. J. J. Marlow, Mayor of St. Kilda, and Saunders (South Dunedin). The business of the Conference began on Monday evening on the arrival of the Wellington representatives by the express. In the unavoidable absence of Mr. Fitzgibbon (president of the executive) Mr. Leyden (vice-president) was voted to the chair. Mr. H. McKeown (hon. secretary of the executive and editor of the 'Catholic Magazine') was also present. The following delegates took part in the proceedings:—Wellington, Messrs. Leyden and McKeown; Christchurch, Messrs. J. Shanley and T. O'Connell; Ashburton, Messrs. McDonnell and P. Wilson; Timaru, Messrs. Doyle and Quin; Invercargill, Messrs. Robertson and M. O'Brien; South Dunedin, Messrs. J. J. Marlow and J. Saunders; Dunedin, Messrs. T. Deehan and T. Hussey; Hokitika, Messrs. H. Williams and F. O'Connell; Auckland, Messrs. D. Columb and A. Mouta; Napier, Mr. T. Adams. The Rev. Father Murphy, Adm. St. Joseph's Cathedral, and Rev. Father Coffey were also present. A letter was read from Mr. Fitzgibbon apologising for his absence owing to illness in his family.

The balance sheet, which was read and adopted, showed a small sum on the credit side. In their annual report the executive expressed their pleasure at the progress which had been made during the year. New societies had been formed during the past year in Auckland, Masterton, Meane, and Greymouth, some of which had already joined the federation. The executive trusted that very soon the chain of federation would stretch from Auckland to the Bluff. The federation was represented by two delegates at the Catholic Congress. It was reported that the affairs of the 'Catholic Magazine' were progressing satisfactorily. Regret was expressed at the great loss sustained by the death of Mr. W. H. Haydon, jun., of Dunedin, who always took a very deep interest in the progress of the Catholic Young Men's Societies. In conclusion the executive appealed to the Catholic young men of the Colony to join Catholic societies, and to such societies to become affiliated with the federation. The report was adopted.

The societies at Hokitika, Timaru, and Invercargill were affiliated. The standing orders were suspended for the purpose of allowing a revision of the rules. An interesting discussion took place as to the most convenient date for the Conference, many members being opposed to Christmas time. Eventually it was decided to hold it during Easter week, the next to take place at Wellington in 1906. It was decided to increase the number of officers of the executive, which will now consist of a president-general, president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and a committee of three, with two representatives at the annual Conference. The annual subscription from societies was fixed at 5s for those having a membership of less than 40, 7s 6d for less than 100, and over that 10s. It was resolved that gentlemen may become hon. members of the federation on payment of a subscription of one guinea. The first Sunday in Advent was appointed as the day on which the members in a body in their respective parishes should approach the Holy Table. Other alterations of an unimportant character were made in the rules.

The editor gave an interesting account of the progress of the magazine, and an assurance that the receipts would cover the expenditure for the current year. A lengthy report from the delegates to the Catholic Congress was presented to the meeting, and the delegates were thanked for their services. The members of the various affiliated societies were recommended to join

the H.A.C.B. Society, and the executive was empowered to procure a suitable medal or badge of membership. Mr. H. McKeown was re-appointed editor of the Magazine.

The following are the officers for the current year: His Grace Archbishop Redwood, president-general; Mr. E. Fitzgibbon, president; Mr. E. J. Leyden, vice-president; Mr. J. McGowan, hon. treasurer; Mr. H. McKeown, hon. secretary; Messrs. A. H. Casey, J. Coyle, F. McDonald, committee.

Votes of thanks were passed to his Lordship the Bishop, the editor of the magazine, the executive, and others, after which the proceedings terminated.

A BANQUET.

On Boxing Day his Lordship the Bishop tendered a banquet to the representatives of the Federated Catholic Young Men's Societies. The function took place in Holy Cross College and was a pronounced success. In addition to the representatives there were present his Lordship the Bishop, the clergy of Dunedin and Mosgiel, the Rev. Father Claffey, S.C., Rev. Brothers Brady and Ryan, the Hon. John Meagher, M.L.C., of Bathurst, N.S. Wales, and Messrs. Columb, sen., and O'Neill. The visitors were driven to Mosgiel in wagonettes through the picturesque high road that winds into the Taieri Plain.

His Lordship the Bishop proposed the toast of the delegates and in happy and appropriate terms wished the Catholic Young Men's Societies a full and flowing measure of success. Able and telling replies were made by Mr. Marlow (Dunedin) and Mr. Williams (Hokitika).

The Bishop afterwards proposed the toast of 'the senior young men' present, coupled with the names of the Hon. Mr. Meagher and Messrs. Columb and O'Neill. In the course of an interesting and entertaining speech his Lordship passed a high eulogium upon the distinguished visitor from Bathurst, who, he said, was one of the best known men on the Australian continent. In illustration of his point the speaker told how, on one occasion Mr. Dillon, M.P., when about to set out for Bathurst, N.S.W., forgot the name of the place. However, he boldly approached the booking office and demanded a ticket for 'Mr. John Meagher's town.' Without a moment's hesitation the ticket clerk handed him a ticket for Bathurst. The anecdote, which was exceedingly well told, created great merriment, in which the principal guest of the day heartily joined. He replied with words of sound, paternal, and practical advice to the young men. Messrs. Columb and O'Neill also replied.

The toast of the Bishop was proposed by Mr. Doyle (Timaru), who spoke in high terms of the admirable equipment of the Catholic Hall, Dunedin, and of Holy Cross College, in which they were gathered. His Lordship suitably replied, and, in the course of his remarks, paid a high eulogium to the work and worth of his illustrious predecessor.

The toast of the clergy was proposed by Mr. Shanley (Christchurch) and replied to by Father Murphy.

His Lordship the Bishop spoke words of high praise of the Christian Brothers in proposing their health. Rev. Brother Brady suitably replied.

At intervals during the banquet the following items were rendered: Song ('Off to Philadelphia'), Mr. T. Hussey; song ('The Meeting of the Waters'), Mr. Doyle (Timaru); recitation ('The woman of three cows'), Mr. J. Callan.

The visitors expressed themselves highly delighted with the outing and the banquet, which supplied such a happy incident of their sojourn in Dunedin.

Pressure on our space compels us to hold over a number of communications.

With this number of the 'New Zealand Tablet' we issue as a supplement our sheet calendar for 1905.

The train arrangements on the New Zealand Railways for the New Year holidays are notified elsewhere in this issue.

The Union Steam Ship Company of N.Z.; Limited, is now engaged in the preliminary work incident to the publication of a high-class literary magazine, the initial number of which will appear about April next, under the title of 'The Red Funnel.' This is but another step made by this popular company to meet every demand of the public. The magazine will in no wise be a guide book or traveller's hand book, but will be confined exclusively to the varied literature that goes to the making of a popular magazine for the home, the club, the library, and for the traveller by rail or sea. It will maintain a dignity of character that will reflect the highest and noblest emotions of Australasian manhood and womanhood, and present to the world's readers a reflex of the life and aspirations of a people altogether too little known beyond the borders of their own land.

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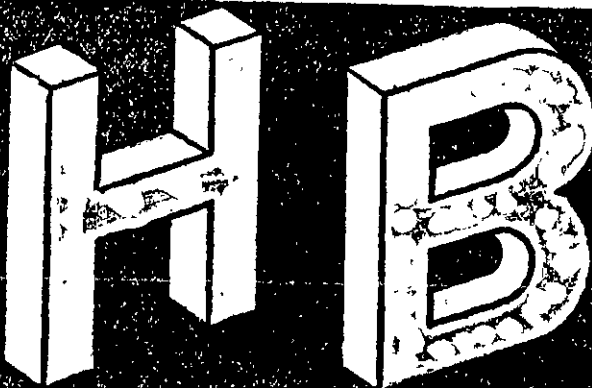
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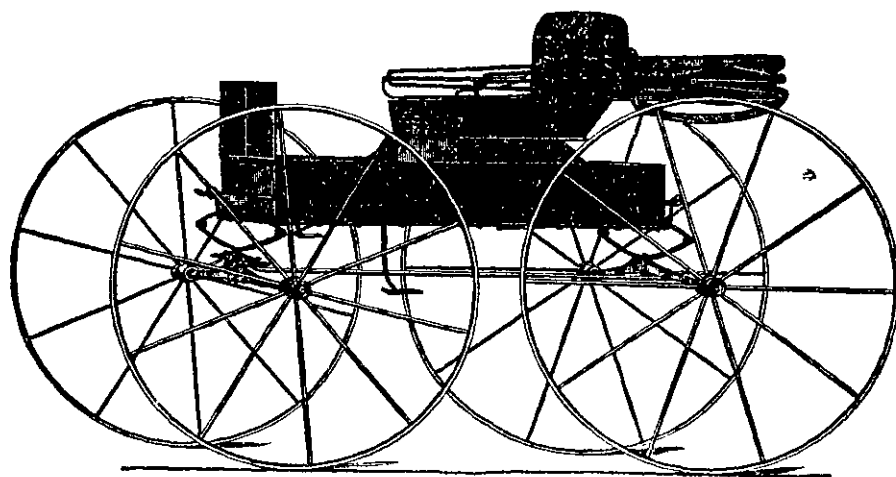
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The Storyteller

WINNIE.

I'm only a greyhound, it is true, and perhaps on that account owe an apology for usurping the privileges of man by reciting a few of my reminiscences. My species have not spoken over much since the time of Aesop; and, having ruminated in more or less unbroken silence for such a period, we may now crave your indulgence. On moonlight nights, when impressed with the beauties of the firmament, we sometimes address the moon in rhapsodies, but in a language unintelligible to man.

At times you may have seen us dreaming at the bedside of past adventures, or mayhap of future forebodings; but you cannot interpret our thoughts as we bark ourselves awake. My dreams are all framed round the same object, and are not as happy as those of less sentimental brutes; my thoughts, asleep or awake, by night and by day, all turn to the same subject; the same form is ever before my mind—it is the form of Winnie; and it is of Winnie I am about to tell you.

It is a romance, though not the kind of romance schoolgirls read in English novelettes—not the Percy and Angelina type, with the same monotonously happy endings: Percy is poor and will not speak because she is rich; then she becomes penniless, and he is enabled to pour forth the longings of a hungry heart; they embrace accordingly, and, lo! each inherits a legacy which is placed at the feet of the other, amidst golden sunsets, dewy evenings, silvery moonlights and diamond mornings, with moonbeams, rainbows, and the song of birds. Yet I write of love, pure love, the love which, methinks, ends more often in sorrow than in joy. Unlike your human writers, I will not 'magnify the exception into a rule, and dwarf the world into an exception'; nor will I, for the sake of sensation, hang the events of one life to the fortunes of another. I write of life, the things I have seen, what I have heard.

As I have already delayed over much with the preamble, I will pass lightly over my birth and earlier environment, which are shrouded in some obscurity. My first coherent recollections are of an eccentric old man, my first master. He was called 'The Professor' by some, but nicknamed 'Socrates' by the boys from the neighboring school; and as I am called 'Plato,' I know not whether his name was derived from mine or mine from his. Be this as it may, Socrates lived a lonely life in a large house, or, properly speaking, old castle, encircled by trees, some distance from the roadside. On a fine day he was usually to be seen in an armchair which he had formed in the hedge, reading some old and well-worn books; when it rained he read the same books in the house, and this was the only variation in habits which he appeared to permit himself. His farm he had let to the neighbors. He was his own butler, cook, and housemaid, all his food was supplied by contract; his tastes were simple and never varied, and the same supply was left daily at his gate. The house, of which he was the only occupant, was never entered save by him, and a kind of weird romance hung around the place. He was a bachelor, of course, and a 'woman-hater,' though I have heard it whispered that once upon a time his sentiments were otherwise towards the subtler sex, one of whom—whether a Circe or Hebe I know not—was the original cause of warping his mind, souring his temper, and giving rise to his numerous eccentricities. At times one of the more advanced students, vain with a passing triumph, attempted an encounter with Socrates, but invariably regretted his temerity; for, whatever the subject chosen, the old man put to shame his youthful adversary. My mother lay at our master's feet to answer the more impertinent in a suitable manner and see that no frivolous intruders disturbed with impunity the meditations with which he was wont to amuse himself.

For a time I also watched with my mother, but as I grew up I became restless, and longed for Kyrle Kelly who on occasion took me with him around the farm and taught me how to run and hunt. It was evident, however, that the old man did not view with favor these illicit excursions on my part, especially as, not infrequently, my mother was induced to leave her vigil to witness my performances.

So it came to pass that Kyrle, who had taken a great fancy to me—being the best-bred hound in the country—got permission to take me away with him, as I had become only a source of distraction to my erstwhile sedate mother. I well remember the day I was taken to my new home, a cheerful-looking house with rose-bushes in front and ivy entwining the ends, a

marked contrast to the forbidding look and bare walls of my previous abode. But as soon as I entered I no longer saw the house. A little girl ran to meet us, the prettiest brown-haired, blue-eyed doll I had ever seen, with a superb pose, and as graceful as a greyhound. She screamed with joy on seeing me, and, clasping her hands around my neck, she waltzed round the floor with me, and forthwith we became fast friends. Such was my first meeting with Winnie; henceforth everything in life seemed brighter and better.

I soon became a general favorite with my new and neighborly neighbors; even the beggars—the natural enemies of my species—used to praise me, but I fear it was only to please Winnie, for I have overheard them say when she was not present that 'twas a sin to waste so much good food on me while so many poor creatures were relying for their dinner on the scraps from a hundred charities. However, I believe they spoke more in hunger than in anger, and consequently I refrain from moralising on such little hypocrisies.

After a time Winnie, who previously attended the local school, changed to the higher school in the village, which was some distance from our home. Kyrle drove her at first, but she soon learned how to drive herself. I invariably accompanied her in the mornings, and longed all day for the hour to meet her in the evenings. The road to the village passed by my old home, and I had an opportunity of caressing my mother as I went by, mornings and evenings. I was also delighted to see my old master give me a kindly glance of recognition, and at sight of Winnie he almost looked pleased. At first the village youths endeavored to coax me hunting, but finding that their blandishments were of no avail, the more cruel of them ceased and annoyed me in a most un-Christian manner. Some boys have no sense of decency, and I was more hurt at the insult than at anything else, to be treated like an ordinary low-bred village cur was naturally tantalising to the best-bred hound in the country. I, however, treated them with the contempt which they deserved. I neither condescended to run from them nor to snarl at them like the base-born, ill-mannered whelps they were accustomed to, and they soon came to respect me accordingly.

These were the happiest days of my life, going to school with Winnie, and occasionally hunting with Kyrle. When I returned from a hunt tired and hungry Winnie dried and fed me, and placed me near the fire. She sometimes looked at me reproachfully when she saw the blood of the hares, and I felt ashamed, though I never did inflict unnecessary punishment or tear up a poor little hare like other dogs. My motto always has been a fair start and a fair run, and I never pursued a hare with a second hound, nor do I think it fair for two powerful brutes to hunt one little hare; hounds that do such things are no better than they ought to be, and have no finer principles than common, ugly mouthed beggars.

Kyrle, however, was before long called away to assist his uncle in business, and I was, therefore, left solely in Winnie's charge. I knew instinctively when school was over, and off I bounded to the village to meet Winnie, and well was I repaid by a loving smile and soft caress. With Winnie present all was sunshine, without her it was darkness. But, alas, these joyous times did not last for ever. Soon I had the mortification to see Winnie's affections shared by another, and that is how our troubles began.

II.

I have described my old master as a hermit, bachelor, philosopher, he was beloved by none of his kind, but was especially feared and hated by the schoolboys. One student, however, whom his colleagues called 'Conor,' more serious-minded than the others, but without a comely person, had recently come to the school, and by his manly and respectful bearing and kindly disposition had gradually succeeded in thawing the old man's frigidity and ingratiating himself into his good graces. He and Socrates read and talked together almost every evening, and I have seen them drawing strange lines on scraps of paper, but to what purpose I know not.

Con also had become a favorite with Winnie; he was less 'cheeky' than the other boys, who continually annoyed her by impertinently calling her the 'Beauty.' For some time I looked upon Con as an intruder, as I fancied that Winnie had become less attentive to me on his account; but eventually I valued him as my best friend outside Winnie and Kyrle. He sometimes walked alongside us, and said pleasant things to Winnie, for, although serious-minded, he had a ready wit and quaint fancy, and seemed full of anecdotes with which he amused us. We looked on anxiously for him every evening, and were disappointed if perchance we did not see

him. We walked together until we came in view of the Professor's, where we left Con, and Winnie and I drove for the remainder of the way.

Thus things went pleasantly on for a year or two, until one evening after we had been home and had our meals Winnie called me with her for a walk, and we strolled along until we came to the banks of a lake in the northern part of Socrates' farm. As we rounded some trees we saw Con, who was reading, and did not appear to see us at first, though I noticed he blushed as Winnie approached in a half artful, half artless manner. We sauntered along for some time, and then Con and Winnie sat down beneath the bank, with the wavelets kissing the sands at their feet. They talked earnestly together for a considerable time, and seemed exceedingly happy. The sun was now setting, leaving a golden canopy behind, the air was charged with electric joy, and I besotted myself pleasantly amongst the rocks bordering the lake. Eventually Con looked at me suggestively as he took Winnie by the hand, and I, pretending to see a hare, cleared the bank at a spring. I struck against something on the other side with great force; and, horror of horrors, on recovering I saw Socrates, who evidently had been watching us through the long grass, endeavoring to scramble to his feet, and swearing at me in a terrific manner. He clambered on to the bank, and, facing the lovers, who were now standing with their hands still locked together, he commenced a tirade, at first sarcastic, but becoming painfully solemn as he proceeded: 'There you are, my fine disciple; such is your philosophy, is it?' And this is the result of my teachings. Fool that I was to be deceived by a shallow top like you. But you shall rue it, my fine fellow; and you, my shy damsel, you are sowing bitter seeds, and you shall reap an abundant harvest.' And then, leaning on his stick, he hissed out, 'The best that I can wish you is that you both prove false; that is the happiest ending, for then there is no disappointment.' At these last terrible words Winnie rushed away crying, and Socrates disappeared behind the bank, but Con stood transfixed where he was, dumb and dazed, until we had gone out of sight.

For some days after this Winnie was sad and listless. Con was nowhere to be seen, and though we galloped past the Castle, which now seemed more forbidding than ever, there was no necessity for this precaution as Socrates was not seen out for weeks afterwards and then he never again deigned to even look at us. I believe it was on the fourth day we again met Con. He assumed an air of nonchalance, unusual and unbecoming, which reminded me forcibly of a boy whistling past a churchyard, endeavoring by this means to persuade himself that he was not afraid, but the conversation was strained and sadder than usual.

After a time, however, they recovered their usual buoyant spirits, and there was now no mistaking their love for each other which the warnings of Socrates seemed only to cement—such is the perversity of human nature. Joy had again succeeded to the throne, and I shared in the contagious happiness of the others. Con found the theories of Socrates! I soliloquised; they are not applicable in this case; love is not contrary to philosophy, but about it; it is the only pleasure worth the attendant pain. Love is its own reward.

It could not be expected, however, that these pleasant meanderings would last for ever; and one evening Con, with an air in which pride and grief seemed to strive for predominance, told Winnie that he had won a scholarship which would necessitate his going to a distant college for a term or two, but he would soon return with his degree and belie the predictions of Socrates. Winnie, however, was unreasonable, and refused to be consoled. Though she had implicit confidence in Con, and—what is no less important—in herself, the warnings of Socrates now recurred to her with added force. There was no help for it, however, and at last the day fixed for Con's departure arrived. The parting I need not attempt to describe; many of you have experienced, and all of you have read of such scenes. Perhaps the two kinds are difficult to reconcile, so I shall leave the picture to be filled in according to your fancy.

III.

Winnie's mother had been dead many years before I first came amongst them; her father was engrossed in business all day, and we seldom saw him except in the early morning and late at night. She had now finished school, and with Con and Kyrle away, I was left as her only companion, and I may say confident. But we were not as happy and content as in our younger days. A gloom had fallen over Winnie, and the only bright rays which penetrated it were the letters which were received regularly from Con and occasionally from Kyrle. Con's letters came regularly every Monday, and

these she re-read and pondered on during our evening soliloquy by the lake.

Thus the first twelvemonths of Con's absence had passed over, when, on a Monday morning, Winnie hastened to meet the postman—on such occasions no Philistine hands were allowed to touch the letters—but returned with a troubled look and downcast eyes instead of the usual joyful flush. No words were required to inform me that Con's letter had not arrived. I, however, looked forward hopefully for the following morning. But when the morrow came and passed into history, and was followed by many similar days, and yet no news from Con, then I also began to look serious.

This was in spring, but the newly-leaved woods or the bright April sun brought no joyous thrill to Winnie, for darker musings had occupied her mind; and when the verdure of spring passed by and was succeeded by the rich, golden summer, faintly lingering hope gave way to despair. She now shunned life and sought the solitude, and towards the autumn, as the ripe corn was being cut down and the matured hay gathered to the farmyards she became noticeably paler and sadder. We still had our evening walks, but instead of to the lake our steps were now turned towards the churchyard, the sad abode where death reigns supreme. One evening as we returned home—Winnie had prayed long and fervently on her mother's grave and cried profusely—her father, noticing her altered appearance, ordered her to bed, and wrote for the doctor, whose attendance in these parts was but rarely required. I anxiously looked for Winnie at the breakfast table on the following morning, but, alas, there was a vacant chair, and I was sorely grieved to see the troubled look which her father bore. The good man was not over observant, but the absence of Winnie, the one bright ray in his clouded and busy life, had a most disquieting effect, and woke up slumbering memories of other days. I watched all day as the sun slowly spanned the heavens, hoping against hope that as evening came on I would hear her gentle summons, but, alas, I was again doomed to disappointment. All night I spent in a sad vigil anxiously awaiting the morrow; but the morrow came and passed away, and yet no sight of the comely form, no touch of the gentle hand, nor sound of the voice whose every whisper I understood and obeyed.

Thus the hours passed by and slowly faded into days alternately saddened by the visit of the sombre doctor and brightened by those of the hope-inspiring priest. Seven times the sun had set and risen again since I had seen Winnie, when one day I was brought to her bedroom. I bounded in with joy; Winnie was there, but, alas, how changed! The bloom had left her cheek, and the lustre of the eye had gone; she was transformed from a doll to a statue, but still beautiful. On seeing me she patted my head, and then turned away sobbing, and I was taken away and left to my own sad thoughts.

Outside the leaves were fast falling from the trees, the sky was dark with clouds, and a solemn stillness appeared to have fallen on everything. During the day several friends and neighbors called, and in the evening Kyrle arrived. Something had prompted me that he was coming, and I met him at the village. He greeted me as friendly as ever, but then he fell into a reverie and I followed him at a respectful distance.

That night lights were in the house later than usual, and it must have been long past midnight when I suddenly awoke from a troubled dream. I heard a great noise in the house, they were praying and crying, and I realised that the worst had happened. I then raised a weird cry which I was unable to control until Kyrle rushed out and his appearance scared and silenced me. His head was bent down, and his eyes stared cold and tearless; he hurried along not seeming to know or care whither, and I followed him silently. At length we came to the churchyard, and going in he threw himself on his mother's grave; then the tears came, the heart-rending tears of a strong man, and for an hour he sobbed and cried like a child.

We returned home as the grey dawn appeared on the horizon, the once bright and happy home but now sad beyond words—sadder than I could yet realise. The day of the funeral arrived, and I learned that she was to be taken to her mother's grave. At length the coffin was taken out and carried to the churchyard, enclosing the source of all the pleasures and joys of my life. It was placed in the already open grave, and the cold earth filled in with its dull, dismal sound, each thud sending a cold shiver to my heart. Then, alas! I knew I was to see her no more, and I cannot attempt to describe my feelings as I thought of the happy days we had spent together; of her merry laughter and pleasant voice; how she stroked my head and caressed me, and then of the sadness that came over her, and how she became more and more attached to me in the days when she never laughed.

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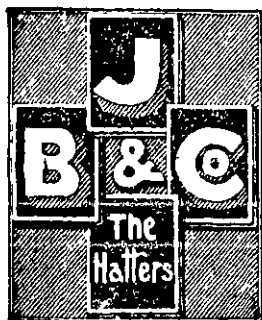
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IV.

The world had now changed for me, though I still visited the lake and brooded over happier days. In the long and melancholy autumn twilight I strolled as of old along our accustomed paths, but all nature seemed different. The notes of the thrush had lost their sweetness, a discordant key pervaded the blackbird's tune; the warbling of the linnet was mellowless; there was dissonance in the song of the lark and melancholy in the hum of the bee. The voice more musical than any was for ever stilled.

As winter came on, cold and cheerless, the stars shone with a feebler ray, and the moon seemed cold and dull as I nightly visited Winnie in her frozen grave. At times I followed Kyrle as he strolled with bent head over the heath-empurpled moorland. His gun lay rusty on the rack, and his once ready hand was now nerveless by his side. The defiant crow of the grouse went by unnoticed, the woodcock and pheasant sought superfluous cover, the sentinel plover kept a vain vigil; the startled cry of the curlew sounded a false alarm; and the shrill cry and quick manoeuvres of the snipe were wasted; our thoughts were not of these.

Winter passed into spring, and the flowers bloomed again, but Winnie was in her grave, with the wild flowers entwining the cold stones above. The primroses and violets faded unplucked, for the hand that gathered them was now cold and lifeless.

The aggressive brightness of summer now seemed misplaced and distasteful, but the more subdued autumn brought consolation. A marble headstone had been erected over Winnie's grave, and on top, with outstretched wings, was poised an angel. Gradually I had come to think of Winnie as the figure above, rather than as the form beneath. I have said that nightly I visited the graveyard, and, gazing on the angel, I felt that I was again in Winnie's company.

Thus it was one night in December I went as usual to visit the tomb. The moon shone bright in a cloudless sky, and a multitude of stars bedecked the firmaments, and the snow lay thick on the ground, reflecting the brilliance of the heavens above. As I jumped over the enclosing wall at my accustomed point, near Winnie's grave, I saw a man approaching in a heavy overcoat, and was about to spring on the desecrating intruder when something familiar in his appearance arrested me. He came along to the grave, and kneeling down, he cried out—'Oh, God, it is too true; forgive me, Winnie. Do you know? Can you understand?' It was Con. As I gazed at him in bewilderment, the figure on the tombstone faded away, and Winnie herself stood beside him; Winnie, not as in death, but the pleasant Winnie of happier memory. She took him by the hand, and pointing heavenwards disappeared as mysteriously as she had come. I ran round the graveyard in a vain chase—Winnie I saw no more—but on returning Con was still there, slowly reading from the tomb—

'Though she has perished, love in deathless bloom
Outlives the torpor of the wintry tomb;
There is a clime where sorrow never came,
There is a peace perennially the same;
There rolls a world where severed hearts renew
Bright sympathies, the exquisite and true.'

But, alas, thought I, not for Plato.—'Weekly Freeman.'

The Catholic World

ENGLAND.—A Jesuit Astronomer

The Rev. Walter Sidgreaves, of the Stonyhurst College Observatory, has been awarded a gold medal by the astronomical section of the St. Louis Exposition for his investigations in stellar spectroscopy.

The Apostolic Delegate to the Philippines

Prior to his departure from England the Most Rev. Dr. Agius, Apostolic Delegate to the Philippine Islands, visited Downside Abbey, and was entertained to dinner on the occasion by the Abbot and community, a number of guests being present. In proposing the health of the Apostolic Delegate the Abbot congratulated the community that a member of their Order should have been selected for so high and responsible a position, adding that he believed this was the first time an Englishman had been so honored. In speaking of Malta, the birthplace of the Archbishop, he referred to the unique privilege of the Cathedral of St. John in the island, as being the only Catholic church in which the King of England had a throne. In his reply, the Archbishop bade farewell to his many friends in the community, saying that his work in the Philippines was to be the work of the rest of his life.

Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School

It is announced that St. Charles' College, Bayswater, has been purchased by the Nuns of the Sacred Heart, who will use it as their training college for teachers, in place of the present establishment at Wandsworth. The Oblate Fathers, when, as a preliminary to the sale, they laid before the Holy See all the facts relating to the financial position and the liabilities of St. Charles' College, also sent a very full statement as to the history of the foundation of the College and of the gifts which had been made to it. In reply, the Sacred Congregation of Propaganda, after carefully considering all the facts of the case, gave permission to realise the property, and at the same time left it to the unfettered discretion of the Oblate Fathers to allocate in any way they thought best whatever surplus might remain after all liabilities had been discharged. This discretion they have exercised in a most generous manner for educational and religious purposes, as the Fathers have, through their Superior, Father Wyndham, made a gift of £10,000 to the Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School to be built at Westminster. In connection with this gift the 'Tablet' states that £20,000 has been subscribed in all towards the Memorial Fund so far. This amount, it is stated, ensures the accomplishment of the scheme, and it is believed that now that the goal is practically within reach the funds still necessary to its completion will be readily obtained. The contributors so far number only 300 persons, but of these the Archbishop of Westminster, the Duke of Norfolk, and the Marquis of Ripon have each subscribed £1000, while there are several others of £500.

FRANCE.—Leaving the Country

So many of the Catholic peasantry of Brittany are leaving that country on account of the persecution to which the religious Orders there are subjected, that the Government has become alarmed at the exodus and the Minister of the Interior has sent circulars to all the communes of that department, urging the officials to take steps to keep the people at home. The Bretons are pious Catholics, and what is needed to keep them home is for the Government to cease its persecutions.

The Separation of Church and State

The President of the Council (says the 'Catholic Times') has made his appearance before the Commission sitting to consider the question of the separation of Church and State in France, and has given his view of the Government's proposals. They are more severe than M. Briand's even, and must result in enslaving the Church to the State in a way worse than did the Concordat. However, M. Combes proceeds warily. For two years he will let the Catholics have their churches free of cost, and for four years will continue to pay the clergy their stipends. We may be sure he has not done this out of feelings of generosity or of justice. But he has done it in order to gain time while his plan works out its course. And his plan is now clear: he wants to split up the Church. He will permit associations in a diocese, but will not allow those of different dioceses to federate or unite with one another! This reduces all the dioceses to units, isolated one from the other, and must thus render them an easier prey of the Government. Processions will not be allowed, excepting funerals; and religious worship, though permitted in church, will be still 'under the direction of the State.' What more is needed to convince any man that, should the Concordat be abrogated, the latter state of the Church in France will be worse than the former? Under the Concordat she had a few liberties; under the new police rules she will have none.

HOLLAND.—A Church Destroyed

A fire broke out on November 7 in the Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart, near Vondelpark, Amsterdam, owing to the overturning of a fire which a plumber was using while working on the roof of the building. The church was burnt down.

INDIA.—Pastoral Visitation

During a recent pastoral journey Bishop Allen, of Madras, India, confirmed 854 Christians, 309 of them being converts from paganism.

POLAND.—Memorial to a Cardinal

A movement is in progress at Posen Prussian Poland, to erect a monument to Cardinal Ledochowski, who suffered much for the faith and for Poland, and died in exile in Rome.

ROME.—Indefinite Rumors

Rumors of a persistent but indefinite character (writes a Rome correspondent) are afloat to the effect that a modification, practical or other, will be given to the Papal 'Motu Proprio.' Anyhow, the old music lives on. Feast after feast and Sunday after Sunday show that, but the known tenacity of Pius X. justifies extreme caution in the acceptance of such rumors.

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HEAVIEST CARROT (2 entries)—1st Prize, grown with Belfast.

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forgotten that SYMINGTON'S COFFEE ESSENCE, whatever shall I do? Call at the nearest Store you pass. They all Keep It.

A New Cantata

From Rome comes the announcement that Don Lorenzo Perosi has written a cantata in honor of Our Lady. The new work is planned for four solo voices and chorus, and will occupy about an hour in performance. A chorus of angels, accompanied by harps, is introduced. Choosing his theme from a work of the fifteenth century, the composer has employed various sacred chants.

An English Address

The illuminated Italian address from the Catholic Reading Guild of England to the Holy Father was presented by the Archbishop of Trebizond in private audience. His Holiness read it 'with great interest,' and gave his special blessing to both the guild and all its members. Rev. Dr. Barry, Sir F. C. Burnand, and Miss R. H. Busk have consented to be among its vice-presidents, while Canon P. J. McCarthy (editor of 'The Dowry of Mary'), Surgeon-General Cuffe, C.B., and Mr. Arthur W. a'Beckett have recently been elected to the Council.

The Marian Congress

Father David Fleming, O.F.M., was invited to act as General Vice-President of the Marian Congress which was held in Rome from November 30 to December 4.

SCOTLAND.—Death of a Religious

The death of a much-loved sister of his Grace the Archbishop of Glasgow, which occurred recently, leaves the Franciscan community in Scotland very much the poorer. The distinguished religieuse, Rev. Mother Magdalen, was one of, if not the most accomplished and brilliant member of the Order in Scotland. For 35 years—during which time she was attached to the several houses of the Order in Scotland—she endeared herself to all with whom she came in contact. Gifted to an extraordinary degree, she exerted a wonderful influence over the many pupils that came under her tuition. For the past eight years she was Superioress of the Franciscan Convent, Crosshill, where her power of governing, together with all her many good qualities and brilliant gifts were seen and felt to much advantage by the Catholics of the district. It is worthy of note that this is the third Sister of Glasgow's Archbishop who gave their lives to God and who have been called to their reward. One Sister, who is also a member of the Franciscan Order, yet survives; she, too, is a very gifted lady.

SOUTH AFRICA.—A Nursing Home

At the request of Bishop McSherry, the English Sisters of the Little Company of Mary have decided to open a home for nursing at Port Elizabeth. A number of Sisters from the hospital of the Order in Sydney have already been ordered to proceed to Port Elizabeth, and others will be sent from Rome later on.

Our Schools.

SACRED HEART HIGH SCHOOL, NAPIER.

(From our own correspondent.)

The annual distribution of prizes and musical entertainment in connection with the Sacred Heart High School, Napier, took place at St. Joseph's Monastery on December 13. There was a very large attendance of parents and friends, and the proceedings were of a most interesting nature. After ample time had been allowed visitors to inspect the students' work, the musical part of the programme was given. The overture, 'I Puritani' was capitally played by Misses Payne, Wells, Goldfinch, Tepene, Treanor, and McGlone. The other instrumental items were, violin, mandolin, piano, and organ quartette, 'Ave Maria,' by Misses M. Ward, G. Pope, Wells, and Kerr; trios on three pianos by Misses Ritchie, Kerr, and Needham, and Misses Harmston, Wells, and O. Cresswell, and a violin solo, 'Maritana,' by Miss K. Condon. The senior pupils sang a number of songs and choruses in a most acceptable manner, while the junior pupils acquitted themselves admirably in an action tambourine song and other exercises.

The prizes were presented by the Rev. Father Goggan, after which the children were suitably addressed by Mr. A. L. Fraser, M.H.R., and the Mayor (Mr. S. Carnell).

The following is the prize list:—

SENIOR DIVISION.

Good Conduct—Boarders: Amy Ritchie and Norah Monaghan. Day pupils: Dulcie Balfour.

Most Obliging Girls—Amy Ritchie, Katie Kerr, Susan McGlone, and Lucy Pope.

Christian Doctrine—Madge Norwood, Norah Monaghan, Katie McGaughran, Annie Brophy, and Mary Moroney.

Highest Number of Marks—Civil Service, Madge Norwood; Class VII., Katie Kerr; VI., Katie McGaughran; V., Mary Hourigan; IV., Mary Murphy; III., Florrie Campbell.

Instrumental Music (prize presented by Mr. Lockyer)—Senior grade, Olive Cresswell; intermediate grade, Katie Kerr; junior grade, Genevieve Pope; preparatory, E. O'Rourke.

Improvement in Music—Ethel Warren, Nora Monaghan, Cecilia Tepene, Lydia Allen, and Amy Payne.

Violin—Kathleen Condon.

Improvement in Violin—Lily Rose and Kitty Nugent. Special Prize for Church Music (presented by Rev. Father Goggan)—Katie Kerr.

Singing—Amy Ritchie and Dorothy Allen.

Certificates for Instrumental Music Trinity College, London—Senior: Mary Tacon, 67; intermediate: Olive Cresswell, 72; junior: May Needham, 64; Katie Kerr, 64; May McGrath, 64; preparatory: Mary Ruston, 85; Minnie Barry, 78; Maggie Mulgway, 75; Genevieve Pope, 72; Lydia Allen, 71; Dorothy Allen, 68; Lucy Pope, 60.

Oil Painting—Ethel Warren and Amy Ritchie.

Water Colors—Norah Monaghan, Susan McGlone, Mary McGlone, and Dulcie Balfour.

Art Needlework—Cecilia Tepene and Amy Ritchie.

Drawn Thread Work—Madge Norwood.

Plain Sewing—Kathleen Condon.

Dressmaking—Ethel Dwan.

Book-keeping—Kate Mahony and Madge Norwood.

Typewriting—Kathleen Condon.

Shorthand—Ethel Warren, Eileen Burns, and Kathleen Condon.

Virgil Clavier—Lucy Treanor and Tottie Rose.

Calisthenics—Minnie Barry.

General Proficiency—Ethel Warren.

Lace Work (point)—Ethel Warren.

Class Prizes.

English, Grammar, and Composition—Civil Service, Madge Norwood; Class VII., Kathleen Condon; Class VI., Annie Brophy; Class V., Genevieve Pope; Class IV., Florrie Campbell.

Spelling and Dictation—Civil Service, Olive Cresswell; Class VII., Katie Kerr; Class VI., Susan McGlone; Class V., Mary McGlone and Ella O'Rourke; Class IV., Mary Murphy; Class III., Amy Payne and Mary Ruston.

Reading—Class VI., Lucy Pope; Class V., Mary Hourigan; Class IV., Arte Ward; Class III., Mary Ruston and Dorothy Allen.

French—Civil Service, Olive Cresswell; Class VII., Agnes Goldfinch.

Writing (plain)—Civil Service, Madge Norwood; Class VII., Maud Dickinson; Class VI., Rosie Moss; Class V., Lucy Treanor and Lily Rose; Class III., Olive Norwood.

Writing (ornamental)—Katie Kerr, May Needham, Mary McGlone, and Genevieve Pope.

Arithmetic—Civil Service, Katie Mahony and Agnes Farrelly; Class VII., Agnes Goldfinch; Class VI., Katie McGaughran and Rosie Moss; Class V., Mary Hourigan, Ella O'Rourke, and Genevieve Pope; Class IV., Mary Moroney and Mary Murphy; Class III., Molly Ward and Amy Payne.

Geography—Civil Service, May Needham and Eileen Burns; Class VII., Katie Kerr; Class VI., Katie McGaughran; Class V., Mary McGlone and Tottie Rose; Class IV., Dulcie Balfour.

Algebra—Civil Service, Katie Mahony and May Needham; Class VII., Agnes Goldfinch and Maud Dickinson.

Model Drawing—Class VII., Maud Dickinson; Class VI., Susan McGlone.

Freehand Drawing—Civil Service, Olive Cresswell; Class VII., Norah Monaghan; Class VI., Rosie Moss; Class V., Mary McGlone; Class IV., Dorothy Kelly; Class III., Molly Ward and Kitty Nugent.

Mapping—Class VI., Susan McGlone; Class V., Tottie and Lily Rose.

JUNIOR DIVISION.

Good Conduct—Rosie Evans.

Catechism—Mary Higgins.

Needlework—Madge Higgins.

Cane Weaving—Lydia Allen.

Singing—Gertie Barry.

Calisthenics—Gertie Barry.

Class Prizes.

Class I.—Reading and geography, Mildred Cranby; writing and spelling, Madge Higgins; arithmetic and drawing, Gertie Barry; general improvement, Lillias Dolbel.

Class II.—Reading, Rita Corry; writing, Mary Higgins; arithmetic and spelling, Rosie Edwards; drawing, Ellen Hourigan.

Class III.—Reading and spelling, Norah Hourigan; writing, Adelaide Kenny; arithmetic, Dorothy Kenny; drawing, Rosie Evans Evans.

Class IV.—Reading, Annie Hourigan; writing, Julia Higgins; arithmetic, Margaret Chisholm; spelling and tables, Aggie O'Rourke.

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH SCHOOL.

There was a large attendance of parents and friends at the breaking-up of St. Joseph's Parish School on December 14. The Rev. Father Goggan presided, and among the others present were the Very Rev. Dean Binsfield, the Rev. Father Martin, and the Marist Brothers. A varied programme of musical selections, recitations, and dialogues was presented, in which the pupils acquitted themselves most creditably, special items being given by Misses Mooney (2), A. Dowdy, K. Falvey, K. Morten, F. Murphy, A. Claffy, M. Goldfinch, E. Roohe, E. McNery, A. Maxey, M. Mackintosh, V. Scanlan, and May McGrath.

The Rev. Father Goggan, before presenting the prizes, briefly addressed the pupils, wishing them every happiness during their six weeks' holidays, and expressing the hope that they would return to school bright and brisk for another year's work. He wished to mention that although his name appeared on the prize list as the donor of several medals, they were really not his personal gifts. He had received them from a gentleman in town who desired that his name should not be mentioned, and to that gentleman all honor and credit were due.

ST. AGNES' SCHOOL, HALSWELL.

(From our Christchurch correspondent.)

The annual distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Catholic schools of the district was commenced at St. Agnes' School, Halswell, on Friday, December 9. The Very Rev. Vicar-General presided, the Rev. Father O'Connell being in attendance. After distributing the prizes awarded to the pupils for diligence, good conduct, and success in studies, the Vicar-General complimented the teachers, the Sisters of the Missions, on the results of their year's labors.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL, ADDINGTON.

(From our Christchurch correspondent.)

His Lordship the Bishop presided at the annual entertainment and prize distribution on Wednesday, December 14. The Very Rev. Vicar-General was also present. After a very pleasing and enjoyable little programme of musical items and recitations, the successful pupils received at the hands of his Lordship the prizes awarded them. The Bishop spoke of the very satisfactory work accomplished during the year—a proof of the careful training by the teachers, the Sisters of the Missions. His Lordship referred to the new school building, and congratulated the Sisters on their present good results, prospects, and teaching facilities.

MYERS & CO, Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street. They guarantee the highest class of 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.

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INTERCOLONIAL

The Broken Hill mines have distributed £291,500 in dividends this year.

On Sunday, December 11, his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne administered the Sacrament of Confirmation in St. Patrick's Cathedral to some 300 candidates of both sexes, including a number of adults.

His Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne, in fulfilment of a promise made some time ago (says the 'Advocate'), proposes to visit New Zealand shortly, after the opening of the New Year. The Archbishop, who has arranged to take his annual holiday then, will sail for New Zealand about January 9. It has been arranged that on his Grace's return the Very Rev. Dean Phelan, who has not had a holiday since his arrival in Victoria, seventeen years ago, will pay a visit to Ireland, where his father still resides. The Very Rev. T. Lynch, P.P. (East St. Kilda), and the Very Rev. D. E. Neelan (Essendon) also contemplate visiting Europe early next year.

At the reception to Mr. and Mrs. Redmond by the Celtic Club, Melbourne, Dr. O'Donnell said that in Victoria, 12,000 miles from the scene of conflict, the greatest possible interest was taken in the fortunes of the Home Rule cause. They rejoiced when the tide was favorable, and grieved when it received a temporary check. Much of the cable news concerning Irish affairs was unreliable and vitiated. The Irish men and women, and Irish-Australians, were determined to keep the flag of Irish nationality flying. Since 1900 no less a sum than £1000 had been subscribed in Victoria to the Irish national war-chest, and that, too, in shillings and half-crowns. They had at present some £300 to the credit of the fund in the bank. On behalf of the Irish people, he desired to tender a hearty welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Redmond. He hoped that the visit would restore Mr. Redmond to perfect health, and that he would go back to impart fresh life and vigor into the battle for Home Rule.

On Wednesday morning, December 11, Mr. William and Mrs. Redmond arrived in Melbourne by the 'Ophir.' A drag containing representatives of the Victorian United Irish League, Celtic Club, Shamrock Club, Gaelic League, and others, proceeded to the Port Melbourne pier, where the distinguished gentleman and his amiable wife were heartily welcomed to Victoria by the popular president of the United Irish League, Dr. N. M. O'Donnell. Mrs. Tucker presented a bouquet to Mrs. Redmond. After a short delay the party drove to the Celtic Club, Elizabeth street, the rooms of which were crowded. Dr. O'Donnell presided, having on his right and left the hon. member for Clare and Mrs. Redmond. The president of the Club (Mr. M. O'Sullivan), Mr. J. B. Roland, M.P., Mr. Joseph Winter ('Advocate'), the Hon. J. G. Duffy, Senator Dawson, Mr. J. Fearon, occupied seats on the platform. Amongst those also present were Senator McGregor (South Australia), Mr. J. M. Prendergast, M.L.A. (Leader of the Opposition), Dr. Maloney, M.P., and Captain Lynch. The president of the Club (Mr. M. O'Sullivan) welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Redmond to Australia. Speeches were also delivered by Dr. O'Donnell, Hon. J. G. Duffy, Mr. J. B. Roland, M.P., Mr. J. M. Prendergast, M.L.A., and others. In the course of his reply Mr. Redmond said: 'I have been asked by the Irish leaders at home to convey a resolution of thanks to the Irish in Australia for the great help which they have given to our movement in Ireland for self-government.'

No one would dream (says the 'Catholic Press') that his Eminence the Cardinal is anything approaching 70, let alone over that age, if they noted his elastic step and vigorous bearing. Australia, with its changeable climate and great summer heat, is no place for rearing young-old men, yet the Cardinal, after his long residence and tremendous work, looks quite as well as if he had remained in the less trying climate of Ireland. But some men have the secret of youth. His Eminence has had a marvellous career among us when we think how young and democratic this country is and how strange it must have appeared at first to one trained in old-fashioned, conservative Rome. It is something more than wonderful to note how soon the Cardinal appreciated the needs of his new people, caught the atmosphere and became the very leader of its best democratic ideals. It is ambitious for fuller nationhood, and in its yearning for more equitable social conditions, Australia found a constant friend in the first Cardinal-Archbishop of Sydney, and there is no name held in greater honor among the great masses of this country. His sympathies have always been with the people, and in his public addresses, as well as in his many charitable institutions, he has sought to lift and help them.

Friends at Court

GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

January 1, Sunday.—The Circumcision.

" 2, Monday.—Octave of St. Stephen, Martyr.

" 3, Tuesday.—Octave of St. John, Evangelist.

" 4, Wednesday.—Octave of Holy Innocents, Martyrs.

" 5, Thursday.—Vigil of Epiphany.

" 6, Friday.—The Epiphany.

" 7, Saturday.—Of the Octave.

Feast of the Circumcision.

This is a festival celebrated on January 1 to remind us of the humility of our Lord in allowing Himself to be seemingly numbered among sinners, by submitting to the law of the Jews. Circumcision was a religious practice among the Jews in the observance of which a distinctive mark was placed on male children the eighth day after their birth, and on all adults who embraced their religion. It was established as a distinctive sign of the people of God, a sign of the covenant made by God with Abraham, and as the figure of baptism in the New Law. The feast of Circumcision is very ancient in the Church, as is proved by the homilies and sermons of the Fathers of the Church.

Feast of the Epiphany.

This festival is set apart to solemnly commemorate the coming of the three wise men from the East, guided by a miraculous star which appeared to them, and directed them to Bethlehem, where they found Christ in the stable; here they honored and adored Him and offered gifts to Him.

The Octave of a Feast.

The octave of a feast is the period of eight days assigned for its celebration during which is repeated every day a part of the office of the feast, as the hymns, antiphons, or verses, with one or several lessons referring to the subject. On the eighth day, the octave properly speaking, the office is more solemn than that of the preceding days. Generally the most solemn feasts, like Christmas, Easter, Pentecost, Corpus Christi, the feast of the patron saint, are accompanied by an octave.

Alderman Taylor has been elected Lord Mayor of Sydney. He is head of the firm of Allen, Taylor, and Co., timber merchants.

It is with pride that we point to the McCormick reel, the strongest ever put on a machine, capable of being set in forty-five different positions, and attached to the machine with such well-fitted and firm bearings that even a casual observer will be impressed by its superiority. The whole bearings are a feature which should not be overlooked, as also is the spring which counterbalances the reel so nicely that a boy can handle it.

On Tuesday of last week in the Court of the Registrar of Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks, Messrs. Connell and Co., of Melbourne, opposed the registration of two trade marks, 'Kandivilla' and 'Kandiala,' on the ground that these marks sought to be registered by Messrs. A. S. Paterson and Co. bore too close a resemblance to 'Kandykoola,' the registered mark of the opponents. After hearing argument from both sides the Registrar decided to allow registration to both of the marks. The opposition was therefore dismissed with costs. Messrs. Baldwin and Rayward appeared for the applicants.

We have received from Mr. George Robertson, Wellington, district manager and supervisor of new business of the Government Life Insurance Department, a neatly got up little booklet, containing the opinions of prominent New Zealand men on life assurance. The views expressed therein are well worth the attention of all classes in the community, and more especially those who have not as yet realised how very necessary and important life assurance really is. It is interesting to know that the people of New Zealand are insured for over £25,000,000, whilst a sum of between £400,000 and £500,000 is paid within the Colony every year by life insurance offices to meet claims of insured persons or their representatives. It is worthy of note that the Government Insurance Department has over £10,000,000 of the above amount and pays away approximately £200,000 a year in claims...

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