

INTERCOLONIAL

Very Rev. Father Lassetter, C.S.S.R., a brother of Colonel Lassetter, is coming to Australia. Father Lassetter, who is a convert, is an eloquent preacher.

As a result of last half-year's operations, Sydney 'Freeman' has paid a dividend of 8 per cent.; and after making due provision for reserves, has carried forward a considerable balance of profits.

The Government Statist of New South Wales on the 20th ult. issued a report on the wheat harvest. He sets down the estimated yield at 16,121,000 bushels, or 10.2 bushels per acre. This is slightly in excess of the last decennial average, viz., 9.9 bushels.

Much interest (writes a Melbourne correspondent) is being evinced in the approaching visit of the great 'Temperance Advocate,' Rev. Father Hays. A meeting was held last Sunday afternoon in the Cathedral Hall to make final arrangements for his campaign. From the 17th to the 31st January, Melbourne and suburbs will occupy the attention of Father Hays, who will also visit the country centres.

During his brief stay in Sydney Mr. William Redmond, M.P., renewed acquaintance with many old friends—amongst them Colonel Freehill, with whom he had a long chat over things National and otherwise. He was especially pleased to see the Cardinal, for he had not forgotten that when he was in Kilmainham in 1882 amongst the earliest letters of sympathy and admiration was one from the Most Rev. Dr. Moran, Bishop of Ossory.

Mr. William Redmond, M.P., and Mrs. Redmond arrived in Sydney by the R.M.S. 'Ophir' on December 16. They had been warmly welcomed at Fremantle, Adelaide, and Melbourne, and they were enthusiastically greeted in Sydney. Mr. and Mrs. Redmond were driven to the Wentworth Hotel, where their health was proposed by Mr. J. F. Hennessy. Hundreds of the leading citizens of Sydney, including his Grace the Coadjutor-Archbishop and several priests, called on Mr. and Mrs. Redmond. On Saturday Mr. Redmond and Mr. James Dalton visited the Cardinal and had a long audience with his Eminence at the Palace, Manly. Mrs. Redmond, as is well known, is a daughter of Mr. James Dalton, of Orange. She has been 19 years in Ireland, and she says she loves the country and the climate, which certainly agrees with her. Mr. Redmond has been in poor health for over 12 months. He spent some months in Switzerland, and he intends making a prolonged stay in Australia. It is more than probable that before he leaves he will address the people of Australia.

That grand old veteran Irish baronet, Sir Bryan O'Loughlin (writes a Melbourne correspondent), has not been favored by the gifts of fortune, and has, in consequence, to accept the tangible proof of those who admire sterling patriotism. He formed the twenty-first Victorian Ministry, 9th July, 1881 to 8th March, 1883, since which date there have been ten Ministries. He has been a prominent figure at Catholic and Irish National gatherings, and has ever maintained the best traditions of his noble Clare ancestral house. Just now an effort is being made to raise a fund which will practically provide for his old age, now weighing its threescore years on his honorable head. The chairman of the Victorian Legislative Council (the Hon. Nicholas Fitzgerald, K.S.G., M.L.C.) has taken the lead in the proposed testimonial, and in response to a circular issued by the member for the Southern Province, an influential meeting assembled in the Melbourne City Hall on the 16th inst., when the movement was formally launched under very favorable auspices. The Mayor was in the chair. Among those present were his Grace the Archbishop, the Premier (Mr. Bent), Sir Matthew H. Davies, Messrs. W. H. Irvine, M.L.A., Nicholas Fitzgerald, K.S.G., M.L.C., F. G. Duffy, K.C., Hon. J. G. Duffy, and D. White. Resolutions expressive of the esteem in which Sir Bryan O'Loughlin was held and of the respect due to him in return for the services he had rendered the State, were passed, and an influential committee was appointed to collect subscriptions to provide a substantial testimonial fund. A subscription list was opened in the room, and a considerable sum contributed by those present. Sir Bryan is the third son of the late Right Hon. Sir Michael O'Loughlin, an Irish judge, who was created a baronet in 1838, and was the first Catholic raised to judicial office either in England or Ireland after the revolution of 1688. Sir Bryan's elder brother, Sir Colman O'Loughlin, represented Clare in the House of Commons from 1863 to 1877. Sir Bryan is now 76 years of age, and has been 42 years in Victoria. He married a daughter of the late James Mackay Seaward, of Melbourne.

Friends at Court

GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- January 8, Sunday.—First Sunday after the Epiphany.
 „ 9, Monday.—Of the Octave.
 „ 10, Tuesday.—Of the Octave.
 „ 11, Wednesday.—Of the Octave.
 „ 12, Thursday.—Of the Octave.
 „ 13, Friday.—Octave of the Epiphany.
 „ 14, Saturday.—St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor.

St. Hilary, Bishop and Doctor.

St. Hilary was the scion of a noble family of Poitiers, France, and was born between 320 and 325. He received his scientific education in his native town and in Bordeaux, where he more especially applied himself to the study of rhetoric. The more he saw of the profligate life of his fellow-citizens, the more his noble soul was filled with disgust and longed after the knowledge of truth. The perusal of Holy Scripture freed him from all the doubts which heathen philosophy had raised in his mind, and together with his wife and daughter he embraced Christianity in 350. On account of his holy life, both the clergy and people demanded his elevation to the bishopric of Poitiers, and he was consecrated shortly before 355. Thenceforth he lived a life of continency, devoting himself entirely to his episcopal duties. His uncompromising opposition to Arianism, favored by the Emperor Constantius, caused him to be banished by that prince to Phrygia. But as his influence here seemed to be still more dreaded by the Arians, he was allowed, in 359, to return to his bishopric, where he continued, by word and writing, and especially by means of synods, to combat Arianism with such success that he caused the Gallican bishops completely to renounce it. True, he was not able to gain over Auxentius, Bishop of Milan, which city was the stronghold of Arianism, but he forced him to be more cautious. The latter years of his life were spent in quietude, occupied with exegetical labors. He died at Poitiers, January 13, 366.

The beautiful statue of the Immaculate Conception, which has been erected in the convent grounds at Bathurst, was blessed on Sunday, December 11, by his Lordship Right Rev. Dr. Dunne. His Lordship, after blessing the statue, alluded to the improvements made in the convent garden during the last three years. The inscription on the tablet is as follows: 'Statue of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin, presented by the Ven. Archdeacon D'Arcy, Wellington, on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Jubilee Year, 1904, Pedestal presented by John Meagher, Esq.'

The many friends and ex-pupils of the venerable Father Joseph Dalton, of the Society of Jesus, will regret to hear (says the 'Catholic Press') that he lies in a very low state at St. Ignatius' College, Riverview. It is well known that for a long time past he had to be always attended. He is now in the 88th year of his age. Father Dalton is a native of Waterford, Ireland, was one of the first Irish Jesuits who came to Australia, having arrived here in 1863 or '64. He was stationed at Richmond, Melbourne, for some years, coming on to Sydney at the end of '78, when he established the first Jesuit House in Sydney at Woolloomooloo. In '79 he founded St. Ignatius' College, Riverview, of which he was first Rector, and at the same time Superior-General of the Order in Australia. After some years he was succeeded by Father Keating, S.J., who in turn had as successors the Very Rev. Father Ryan, S.J. (the present Superior of the Jesuits), Rev. Father Luke Murphy, S.J., and the Very Rev. Father Thos. Gartlan, S.J., who is now Rector at Riverview. Father Dalton, who has been living at Riverview so many years is a great favorite with the students and ex-students of the college, and at the annual banquet of the 'Old Boys' Union every year affectionate reference is always made of him.

The McCormick Hay Rakes are simple in design, strong in construction, and practical in the field. They are made in both self-dump and hand-dump styles, and the best material is used in their manufacture. The wheels are made with staggered spokes, and fitted with a heavy two-inch channel steel tyre, while the hubs turn on large steel shafts, the length and side of the hub giving abundant bearing surface which insures lasting wearing qualities...