

ledge of her whereabouts. I am anxious, as is also my husband, to find our daughter, with a view to having her placed again in the Abbotsford Convent, or some such institution, where she would be under proper control. I am sorry to say that she is utterly untruthful, and that no reliance whatever can be placed upon any statement she makes. Both my husband and myself are extremely sorry for the slanderous and untruthful statements with regard to the nuns of the Good Shepherd, who had treated her with the utmost kindness. I have seen a statement made by Mrs. Goldspink, which was published in the "Advocate" of July 1, 1905, and I know that the statement is true with regard to my daughter's admission to the Abbotsford Convent.

'And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of the provisions of an Act of Parliament of Victoria rendering persons making a false declaration punishable for wilful and corrupt perjury.

'CATHERINE LAUGHTON.

Declared before me this 4th day of July, 1905,
at Carlton.

'H. LONSDALE THOMPSON, J.P.'

'I Arthur Jennings Laughton, of 4 Tyrone-street, North Melbourne, have read the foregoing declaration, made by my wife, Catherine Laughton, and I declare that I am satisfied as to the truth of the statements contained therein.

'And I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true, and by virtue of an Act of Parliament rendering persons making a false declaration punishable for wilful and corrupt perjury.

'ARTHUR JENNINGS LAUGHTON.

Declared before me this 4th day of July,
at Carlton,

'H. LONSDALE THOMPSON, J.P.'

We ('Advocate') may first briefly summarise the particulars of this incident as it appears in this and last week's issue of this journal. The 'Watchman' published the declaration of Laughton, to the effect that she was, after taking a tram ride with a distant relation, induced to enter the convent without knowing it was such, and was prevailed on to remain. The fact is that she was taken from gaol by Mrs. Goldspink, at her own and her mother's request. She declared that her father was 'drowned in the July flood,' and that her mother died in the Melbourne Hospital two years ago. The statutory declaration of both parents, made before a reputable magistrate, who did not hesitate to sign his name, is a sufficient proof of the falsehood of that assertion. The 'Watchman' declaration says that the girl Laughton, being a Protestant, was forced to attend Catholic worship in the convent. The lie in this case was palpable at once, because it is well known that the religious beliefs of the inmates of Abbotsford are scrupulously respected, as the testimony of such inmates for years can abundantly prove, but in this case the parents are both Catholics, as, of course, is their daughter, and therefore the statement is clearly proved to be false. Various other matters affecting the girl's credibility are given in the parents' declaration, showing to what lengths the Orange fabricators went in the tuition of their protegee who had fallen into their hands.

From the foregoing facts it will be seen how completely the malignant intentions of T. A. Rogers and the 'Watchman' have been foiled. It may be said, however, that falsehood and slander form the entire stock-in-trade of publications of this class, and it is really marvellous that the authorities do not, in the interests of public decency, institute a prosecution against the proprietors of some of the organs of the Orange clique.

Bonington's Carrageen (Irish Moss) is highly recommended as a remedy for coughs and colds.

Messrs. S. Smith and Co., merchant tailors, Princes St., Dunedin, request the public to give them an opportunity of proving that they turn out frock, dress, and sac suits, and ladies' costumes in a style which cannot be excelled elsewhere. A trial respectfully solicited.

Gregg Shorthand is very popular in the United States and Canada, where it has a great vogue in the principal schools and colleges. It is said to be an exceedingly simple system, and can be acquired in a much shorter time than the older methods. The New Zealand representative of the Gregg Shorthand system is Mr. J. W. Irwin, Christchurch, who will be pleased to supply all information regarding it.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

July 15.

In an article in 'L'Indépendance Belge' Mr. George Robertson, of the Government Life Insurance Department, gives some information of historical interest regarding the attempt of the French to colonise New Zealand, and also of the progress of the Catholic Church in Canterbury.

On Monday evening the members of the Catholic Young Men's Literary Society held their usual weekly debate. The question for discussion was: 'Should Asiatics be admitted into Australasia?' Mr. E. A. Baker opened in the affirmative, and was opposed by Mr. Dixon. An interesting discussion ended in favor of the advocates of a policy of exclusion.

The bazaar held in the Town Hall last week to provide funds for the furnishing of the Home for Chronic Invalids, recently erected in the hospital grounds, was a brilliant success. His Excellency the Governor paid a visit to the fair, and graciously left at one of the stalls an order for a supply of goods to be sent to Mother Aubert, to whose noble example the existence of the present home is largely ascribed. Mother Aubert also paid a visit to the bazaar, and was warmly welcomed by the committee and stallholders. She was not allowed to depart without some comforts for the unfortunates under her care.

The Bible-in-schools Referendum League is showing signs of much activity. The Town Hall has been secured for August 3, when a monster demonstration is to be held at which addresses will be delivered by clergy and laymen. The Anglican Synod, after much discussion, decided to support the League's proposals. It would appear that for the most part they would favor a denominational system, but since such does not appear possible, they consider the only course open is to advocate the introduction of Bible-teaching into the schools of the State. Bishop Wallis' remarks at the conclusion of the debate are worthy of note. He said that if they were in earnest, they must make their desires known at the next general election, and not miss their opportunity then. In the course of his remarks at the Synod the Rev. C. C. Harper made certain references to the New Zealand Educational Institute, suggesting that the Institute did not represent the teachers, and that the views of the latter on the question of the Bible-in-schools were not really interpreted by the Institute. The secretary of the Institute, in a brief communication to the 'Times,' clearly showed that the Institute was representative of the teachers, for out of 2996 adult teachers in the Colony 1715 were financial members of the Institute. Again in January last a council of 57 teachers, representing every education district in New Zealand, debated and agreed to the following remit from the Hawke's Bay District Institute: 'That the introduction of religious instruction into the school syllabus is not desirable.' From this it is clear that the State school teachers are not in sympathy with the League's proposals, and their decision in this matter should carry much weight with all right-thinking men.

Masterton

(From our own correspondent.)

July 12.

The Very Rev. Father Keogh, of St. Patrick's College, was on a visit to Masterton last week, and preached a retreat to the Sisters of St. Bride's Convent.

On account of having a second priest here now, we are able to have three Masses on the third Sunday of the month, one of which is for the children. The singing at the children's Mass, under the able tuition of Mother Mary Joseph, is very much appreciated.

The St. Patrick's Debating Club is again to the fore this season. At their meeting last week the following officers for the year were elected: Patron, Very Rev. Dean McKenna; president, Mr. B. J. Dolan; vice-presidents, Messrs. M. C. O'Connell, J. Yarr, and C. C. Downes; committee, Messrs. P. J. O'Leary, J. C. McKillop, A. Haughey, B. Chapman, and F. Daniels; secretary, F. Haughey.

The half-yearly meeting of St. Michael's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society was held last evening. There was a large attendance of members, the president (Bro. W. Redmond) presiding. Considerable discussion took place over the notices of motion on the business paper to be