

INTERCOLONIAL

The death is announced of Mr. J. J. O'Meara, for some years a police magistrate of Victoria. He was 75 years of age at the time of his death, and was born in Dublin. He came to Victoria in 1852, and, after being in business near Ballarat, he joined the public service in 1865.

The cattle donated to the Rev. A. Horan for the reduction of the debt on St. Mary's Church, Ipswich, were sold by auction recently, and realised the handsome sum of £906, which with cash donations received in lieu, would make a total of about £1200 in aid of the church debt reduction fund.

Bishop Dunne, of Wilcannia, presides over a diocese of big distances. Though resident at Broken Hill, his diocese includes the town of Bourke, some 300 miles northwards. To avoid the inconvenience of road travelling between these points, Dr. Dunne undertakes a journey of about 2000 miles four times a year, namely, from Broken Hill to Adelaide, thence to Melbourne, Sydney, and Bourke.

The furnishing of some of the chapels of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne, including the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Blessed Sacrament (says the 'Advocate'), has been completed, and their beautiful mosaic tiling and richly-decorated walls bring them into unison with the elegantly furnished sanctuary. A lady has generously undertaken to provide the mosaic tiling for one of the other chapels, and the work will shortly be proceeded with.

On the Feast of the Visitation the solemn ceremonies of reception and profession took place at St. Joseph's Convent, North Sydney. Among those who received the religious habit was Miss Daly, of Auckland (in religion Sister M. Ina). Among the novices was Miss Fitzgibbon, of Arrowtown (in religion Sister M. Dominica). Three of the Sisters left for this Colony a few days later for the purpose of taking charge of the Maori mission at Taupo, in the King Country.

Arrangements (says the Sydney 'Freeman's Journal') are being quickly pushed forward for the holding of the Third Plenary Council of the Australian Church at St. Patrick's College, Manly, next September. Their Lordships the Bishops will meet under the presidency of his Eminence Cardinal Moran, and will address themselves to matters of Ecclesiastical Law and discipline. It is not yet definitely known what matters will form subjects for special discussion, but it is supposed that the revision of the Catechism, at present used in our Catholic schools, will be one.

The Melbourne 'Age' pointed out that the recent opening of the Catholic Cathedral at Broken Hill, drawing as it did the Barrier priests from every part of Dr. Dunne's huge diocese, afforded a convincing illustration that 'pioneer' Church work is not extinct in Australia. One priest left his parish in a buggy for Broken Hill three weeks before the opening of the Cathedral, and travelled 750 miles before he reached the town in good time for the ceremony. His course lay along the north-west of New South Wales via Wilcannia, and he had to go 150 miles out of his way to celebrate a marriage.

The death of Mr. E. J. Ryan, of George street West, Sydney, creates a gap in the ranks of the prominent Irishmen in that city. The deceased, who was only 41 years of age, was born at Turraheen House, Tipperary, and was educated at the College of the Patrician Brothers at Mountrath, where he went through his scholastic course with great distinction. He came to Australia in 1881, and followed the teaching profession in Maitland and other places, and latterly in Sydney, where he conducted with much success the University College. The late Mr. Ryan was a fluent linguist, being conversant with many European languages. The remains were interred in the Waverley Cemetery, close to the '98 monument, which he had helped to erect.

Tangye's gas engine and suction gas producer is highly recommended for being very economical in the consumption of gas. The cost of driving a 5-horse power is said to be about one penny per hour. Quotations and full particulars can be obtained from Messrs. John Chambers and Son, Ltd., Auckland, Wellington, and Dunedin.

"Scatter your minions!" said Disease one day
To the demon Cold and his friend Decay;
"Winter is here to give you a hand.
Out! friend, out! and ravage the land."
"I can't," said the Demon, "I'm quite out of work,
A mortal named Woods pulls me up with a jerk;
His Great Peppermint Cure is death to my host.
Good-bye!" said the Demon, and gave up the ghost!

Friends at Court

GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- July 30, Sunday.—Seventh Sunday after Pentecost. St. Martha, Virgin.
" 31, Monday.—St. Ignatius Loyola, Confessor.
August 1, Tuesday.—St. Peter's Chains.
" 2, Wednesday.—St. Stephen I., Pope and Martyr.
" 3, Thursday.—The Finding of the Body of St. Stephen, Protomartyr.
" 4, Friday.—St. Dominic, Confessor.
" 5, Saturday.—Dedication of St. Mary's, Rome.

St. Martha, Virgin.

St. Martha was the sister of Lazarus, whom Christ raised from the dead. The family resided at Bethany, near Jerusalem, where they received frequent visits from our Divine Lord. According to a French tradition, Lazarus became first Bishop of Marseilles, while the tombs of Martha and her sister Mary are still venerated in Provence.

St. Ignatius Loyola, Confessor.

St. Ignatius was born at the castle of Loyola, in the North of Spain. He was at first a soldier, but feeling himself called to a more perfect life, he began at the age of 33 to study Latin with the object of becoming a priest. He completed his studies at the University of Paris, where he gained the affectionate esteem of several young students, who were afterwards the first members of the religious Order which he founded, and which is known as the Society of Jesus. St. Ignatius was its first Superior, and held that office from 1541 to 1556.

St. Peter's Chains.

This feast commemorates the miraculous deliverance of St. Peter from the prison into which he had been cast by order of King Herod Agrippa. The circumstances of this miracle are narrated by St. Luke, in the twelfth chapter of the Acts of the Apostles.

St. Stephen I., Pope and Martyr.

St. Stephen, a native of Rome, became Pope in 253. In dealing with the heresies which at that time infected Spain, France, and Africa, his zeal in preserving the integrity of the Faith was equalled by the forbearance he displayed towards well-meaning and saintly men who had unwillingly given their adhesion to erroneous doctrines. He was beheaded in 257 during the persecution of Valerian.

Finding of the Body of St. Stephen, First Martyr.

The martyrdom of St. Stephen is commemorated on December 26. The feast, which is celebrated to-day, was instituted on the occasion of the discovery of the remains of this great saint, A.D. 415.

St. Dominic, Confessor.

St. Dominic, a Spaniard of noble birth, was remarkable from childhood for a tender love of the poor, and a filial devotion to the Blessed Virgin. After his ordination to the priesthood these two characteristics became still more marked. To his devotion to the Blessed Virgin is attributed the institution of the Holy Rosary, which was such a powerful factor in the conversion of the Albigensian heretics, and which has ever since remained a favorite devotion of Catholics. St. Dominic died in 1221, having some years previously founded the well-known Order of monks, called after him Dominicans.

The Dedication of the Church of St. Mary ad Nives.

The Church of St. Mary ad Nives, or, as it is more frequently called, St. Mary Major, is one of the four great basilicas of Rome, and the largest and most celebrated of the many in that city which are dedicated to the Mother of God. Built in the fourth century, under Pope Liberius, it was rebuilt on a magnificent scale in the following century.

Though St. Mary's Cathedral (says the 'Freeman's Journal') has not yet reached its final stage of completion and internal adornment, his Eminence has obtained sanction from Rome for its solemn consecration, which will take place during the sitting of the Third Plenary Council. The generosity of a faithful people, and the unsparing industry of the clergy of the archdiocese, and our Fair committees, have cleared off the remaining debt, and the solemn consecration of the noble building to God will be a fitting gift from Australia to our Immaculate Patroness, and a beautiful finale to the celebration of the jubilee of the Immaculate Conception. St. Mary's will be the second Cathedral in Australia solemnly consecrated to divine worship.