

and abounds in dramatic situations and humorous incidents. The piece has been most successfully played in all parts of the world, and was included in the repertoire of the late Chas. Arnold, whose death was recently recorded. The cast on this occasion is composed mostly of professionals. Mrs. John Fuller, jun., has kindly volunteered her services for the title role. Mr. John Fuller, jun., is to play the broken-down sport, Joe Shotwell; Mr. Percy James, the comedy dude, Dudley Harcourt; Mr. Joe Stoyke, the farmer; Miss Tot Brennen is to represent the adventuress, Mrs. Fleeter; Mr. King (a prominent member of the Wellington Dramatic Company), Doctor Oliver; Mr. J. Dee, the villain, Harold Bartlett; Miss Addie Heley, Mrs. Hatzell; and Mr. Ben Stevens, Tony Faust. The scenery has been specially painted for this production by Messrs. Beck and G. Hoskings, and the training of the children is in the hands of Mr. J. Stoyke, who was for many years the stage manager for Pollard's Opera Company. The whole is to be produced under the direction of Mr. Percy James, and the business management, as heretofore, is in the hands of Mr. J. Marlow. The success of the performance from an artistic point of view, considering the first-class talent engaged in its production, is already assured, and it remains with the public to make it a financial success. We feel confident, judging from their actions on previous occasions, that they will do their part with the same spirit of generosity that they have always displayed. The object, assisting the orphans, is a most laudable one, but apart from this the play will be well worth the charge for admission. The initial performance takes place on Wednesday evening, September 27.

St. Patrick's College Scholarships

Four scholarships of the yearly value of £25 each, tenable for four years, will be offered for competition next December in connection with St. Patrick's College, Wellington. These scholarships are open to all Catholic boys attending the parochial schools of the Colony. Candidates must be under the age of fourteen on the first of January, 1906, and applications to be examined must be forwarded to the Rector before November 10, accompanied by an entrance fee of 10s. Further particulars will be found in our advertising columns.

Home Rule for Ireland

To the Editor.

Rev. Sir,—In your 'Notes' in the last issue of the 'Tablet,' speaking of the deplorable state of Ireland, you say 'Over great areas of the country the right of free speech and public meeting is abolished. Members of Parliament dare not attempt to address their constituents, unless they are satisfied to have their faces broken by bludgeon-men in the uniform of the Crown, and the liberties of the subjects are at the mercies of packed juries, of judges who are appointed chiefly for their political leanings,' etc. This, though sketched in a few words, is, indeed, a melancholy picture of the state of dear Old Ireland. But what makes it more melancholy still is the fact that it falls short of the reality. Of course it would have been impossible in such small space for even the Editor of the 'Tablet' to give an adequate description of the conditions that now prevail in Ireland. With such facts before their minds, I think the Irishmen of New Zealand would be little better than renegades if they do not join their fellow-countrymen in the Australian Commonwealth, in Canada, in the United States, in England and Scotland—in the world all over—to obtain Home Rule for their native land. His Eminence Cardinal Moran, that distinguished Churchman and Irishman, initiated the most practical scheme to secure support for the Irish Parliamentary Party in its campaign. Speaking to 20,000 people last St. Patrick's Day in Sydney, his Eminence suggested an annual Home Rule Tribute from the sea-divided Gael of £20,000 to be forwarded to the Party and to be contributed as follows:—Ireland, £10,000; United States, £5000; Canada, £3000; Australia and New Zealand, £2000. Since then Cardinal Moran has carried out the part of his suggestion that relates to Australia. The bogey that Home Rule for Ireland would mean the dismemberment of the Empire is regarded as the merest myth by his Eminence. And, in this connection, who is more loyal to the Crown, or who better qualified to form a true estimate of what would be good or bad for the Empire, than the learned Cardinal-Archbishop of Sydney? Nearly sixteen years

ago the present Chief Justice of New Zealand, Sir Robert Stout, stood side by side on platforms in Dunedin and Invercargill with John Dillon, advocating Home Rule for Ireland. Who will say that the Chief Justice is now, or was then, disloyal? Or who will deny that he has the ability to form a true estimate of what is good for the Empire? I hope you will pardon me for suggesting that you, through the columns of your paper, make an appeal to New Zealand for assistance to the Home Rule Tribute. You have only to ask, and I am certain you shall receive.—Yours, etc.,

J. F. O'DONNELL.

St. Joseph's, Queenstown,
September 18.

(According to Mr. W. Redmond, an Irish Parliamentary delegation to these colonies is among the possibilities of the near future. The only thing we are aware of that might stand in the way would be an early dissolution of the Imperial Parliament, which, judging by present appearances, is an unlikely contingency. In the meantime (as reported in our last issue) the H.A.C.B.S. are moving in the matter, and to them, and to all Irish organisations in the Colony, we commend the eloquent appeal of our esteemed and warm-hearted correspondent—Ed. 'N.Z.T.')

Teaching Gaelic in Catholic Schools

To the Editor.

Sir,—I desire to draw attention through your valuable paper to what I consider would be very much appreciated by the Catholics of New Zealand, especially the Irish Catholics, viz., the teaching of the Gaelic language in our colleges and high schools, as a beginning. I feel confident that our Bishops and clergy will agree with me that the move would be a good one. I specify our colleges and high schools as a beginning, feeling confident that in a very few years the Gaelic tongue would be taught in every Catholic school in New Zealand. Let me review briefly the advance of the Gaelic movement in Ireland.—The work has gone on by leaps and bounds, indeed, it is nothing short of a marvel the rapid and extraordinary success that has attended it. In ten years from now all Ireland will again speak Gaelic. I never knew an Irish man or woman but loved their faith and native land, and it is quite natural that this love of faith and fatherland will be handed down to our children, and say in ten or twenty years hence, if any of our young New Zealanders of Irish parentage should be fortunate enough to steer their barque to Erin's Isle, what a loss it would be to them; not to know Gaelic. 'I fear I will never look on dear Old Ireland again, but my heart is with Ireland and the Gaelic movement, as every Irishman's heart should be, and that is why I consider our grand old language should be taught in our schools.

Hoping that some abler 'pen will take up and champion this cause, and that in the near future Gaelic will be one of the languages taught in all our schools,—Yours, etc.,

BENJAMIN BURLAND,

Kaikoira.

THE PLUNKET MEDAL

CATHOLIC YOUNG MEN TO THE FORE

(From an occasional correspondent.)

Wellington, September 16.

The members of the Royal Historical Debating Society at Trinity College (Dublin) prize very highly the medal for oratory given to perpetuate the memory of the first Lord Plunket, and to stimulate a desire to excel in that sphere of public usefulness in which he was such a brilliant star.

Some time ago his Excellency the Governor, desiring to establish a connection between: one of the oldest and one of the youngest universities of the Empire, generously endowed Victoria College with a medal for oratory to be annually competed for by the students. The first contest took place in the Girls' High School on Saturday evening, in the presence of an audience that filled every part of the hall. His Excellency, accompanied by Captain Bingham, occupied a seat on the platform. His Worship the Mayor, the Hon. the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Mr. Baume, M.H.R., and the professors and lecturers of the College were also present.

The chair was occupied by Mr. H. P. Richmond

Turkish, Steam, and Hot Baths

121 Cashel Street East, CHRISTCHURCH.

YOUNG & Co. Proprietors

Open Daily from 8 a.m.
till 10 p.m.

LADIES' Hours for Turkish:

Sundays ... from 7 a.m.

Tuesday ...