

EDITORS' NOTICES.

Send news WHILE IT IS FRESH. Stale reports will not be inserted.

Communications should reach this office BY TUESDAY MORNING. Only the briefest paragraphs have a chance of insertion if received by Tuesday night's mails.

Reports of MARRIAGES and DEATHS are not selected or compiled at this office. To secure insertion they must in every case be accompanied by the customary death or marriage advertisement, for which a charge of 2s 6d is made.

PRINTING.—**FOREMAN** wanted for Printing department, New Zealand Tablet Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., Octagon, Dunedin. Apply Manager, enclosing copies of Testimonials.

Meanee Art Union.

THE DRAWING FOR PRIZES in the above Art Union will take place on

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14th, 1905.

H. McDONNELL, S.M.

ANSWER TO CORRESPONDENT

'FACTS.'—Kindly forward address.



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

LEO XIII. to the N.Z. TABLET

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1905.

THE SPY IN EXCELSIS

SOME months ago we dealt with the revelations regarding the system of espionage organised by the Freemasons in the army of the French Republic. In one short year alone the chiefs of that dark-lantern fraternity, in collusion with their brethren of the War Office, issued no fewer than twelve thousand 'lettres de cachet,' gathered together from their uniformed spies, for the purpose of ostracising, banishing, depriving of due or merited promotion, or 'breaking' all officers of the army, no matter how high their qualifications may have been, if they, or any of their relatives, had dared to commit the high crime of assisting at Mass or practising in any way the religion of their fathers. It is needless to point out the outrageous character of this invasion of an indefeasible personal right, this act of high treason against the best interests of the State, whose final resort and last argument in the day of its need is its army. This great Masonic scandal took hold of France and shook it from end to end. General Peigne, one of the meanest and most active and ruffianly of the uniformed spies, was cashiered, in deference to the clamorous voice of outraged public opinion. His brethren of the War Office have now reinstated him, and their action will, when Parliament assembles, result in

the reopening of the greatest military scandal in history, and in the publication of the further mass of documentary revelations that are in the hand of M. Guyot de Villeneuve.

But the scandal, like a temporarily closed leak in an unsound dam, has broken out in a fresh place. The ungentle and cowardly arts of the sneak and spy have been officially introduced into the teaching profession in lodge-ridden France. Here is a translation of an official document addressed to an 'instituteur' (male teacher) and recently published in photographic facsimile by the 'Echo de Paris':—

FRENCH REPUBLIC.

Liberty, Equality, Fraternity.

Sub-Prefecture of Confolens (Charente).

Office of the Sub-Prefect.

Confidential.

Confolens,——1905.

REQUISITION.

Monsieur l'Instituteur,—I have the honor to beg you to be good enough to send me confidential information on the antecedents, conduct, morality, pecuniary position, family expenditure, and political attitude of M.—

Please to accept, M. l'Instituteur, the assurance of my respect.

SUB-PREFECT.

M. l'Instituteur,—

'This letter,' says the 'Echo,' occupies half the sheet: the other half is left blank for the teacher to fill in his reply.' Here is another French official scandal of no mean magnitude. How is it that our secular papers—that 'tore around' like wounded sperms over the Dreyfus case—have not uttered so much as a whisper regarding it? They can procure—by cable, too—details regarding the serious illness of a steeplechaser, or the death of a hound, or the matrimonial squabbles of a ballerina. But not one of them gave so much as a hint as to the connection of the Grand Orient with the amazing malpractices by which thousands of deserving officers were penalised for their religion in the French army, on the secret and oftentimes malicious reports of Freemason spies. 'Are our secular newspapers, like the French War Office and courts of law, under the 'occult jurisdiction' of the Grand Orient?

Notes

Ping-Pong

Dickens has said somewhere that 'the harder a bad hobby is ridden the better, for the sooner it is ridden to death.' The Maori up Rotorua way have been riding the billiard hobby 'a sperone battuto'—plying whip and spur like madmen—till it became an all-absorbing game-craze. And now we are told that the big brown men have broken loose from the fascination of billiards—which have yielded to the 'force majeure' of a more compelling charm, as the common or garden variety of headache surrenders to the more imperious will of neuralgia or lac-douloureux. The new craze is one that has already been through the system of the Pakcha—to wit, ping-pong. But for the moment it appears to have emptied and closed the billiard saloons. It got its death-stroke in America in the year of grace 1902, when sundry New York surgeons announced that it produced a painful inflammatory condition of the ankle-joint, to which the newspapers promptly gave this apt alliterative appellation, 'the Ping-Pong Pang.'

Nuts to Crack

We commend to our readers the able letter on the Bible-in-schools question, by the Rev. Mr. Chapple, which is printed in this issue. It appeared in the