

INTERCOLONIAL

A pleasing ceremony took place in the Cardinal's Hall, Sydney, on Christmas Day immediately after the 11 o'clock Mass, when the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Haran was made the recipient of a beautifully illuminated and framed address by the members of the Cathedral choir. The presentation was made by the popular conductor, Mr. J. A. Delany, who said it was the very great pleasure of the members of the choir to have an opportunity of offering their sincere congratulations on the high honor which his Holiness the Pope had conferred on Dr. O'Haran by elevating him to the distinguished rank of Prothonotary Apostolic, and their gratification was emphasised by the fact that Dr. O'Haran was the first priest in Australia raised to that dignity. The Right Rev. Mgr. O'Haran sincerely thanked Mr. Delany and the members of the choir for the address, and referred to the great work accomplished by the choir under the direction of Mr. Delany.

The reappearance of Miss Amy Castles at the Queen's Hall, London, on November 21, after three years of study in Paris, drew a densely crowded audience. It was soon seen that Miss Castles had made a wonderful advance since her debut in St. James' Hall. She is now a highly-trained and finished vocalist, ready and qualified to appear in high opera with positive certainty of success, and every promise of developing into a second Melba. Her singing of the mad scene of Ophelia in Ambroise Thomas' famous opera, 'Hamlet,' was quite a revelation, and evoked prolonged and enthusiastic applause. In a pen-picture of the occasion by Mr. J. F. Hogan it is remarked that 'the scene of delight and spontaneous enthusiasm was a veritable crowning of the young Australian queen of song, who is evidently destined to eclipse all her predecessors from the land of the Southern Cross.' The 'Standard' says she is 'one of the very few singers who can give unqualified delight by sheer beauty of voice'; and the 'Daily News' remarks that her voice has 'more power of expression than Melba's, and is more varied in quality.'

The death of Bernard Bede Kieran, the wonderful swimming champion of Australia, in the flower of his athletic fame, at the age of nineteen (says the 'Freeman's Journal'), is one of the saddest reminders of the uncertainty of life. Kieran had just returned from England, where he had won laurels in the swimming season and put up records unapproached by others. Instead of resting at his home in Sydney, he entered for events in Brisbane with his usual brilliant success. That he was unwise in doing so is now apparent, for advices that followed him from England warned his friends that he needed rest. But the words of warning came too late to be acted upon, and Kieran was stricken down in Brisbane with appendicitis, an operation for which seemed successful, until he suddenly weakened and died. The funeral on Boxing Day was a great popular demonstration of sympathy. Ferry steamers and trains to North Sydney, whence the funeral moved to the pretty little cemetery at Gore Hill, were taxed to their utmost capacity. The Rev. Father O'Dowling, S.J., of St. Mary's, North Sydney, read the prayers for the dead prior to the removal of the confined remains from the residence at Burton street, and also officiated at the graveside.

On Sunday, December 31, at the 11 o'clock Mass at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne, Dr. M. U. O'Sullivan was invested with the insignia of the Order of Commendatore of St. Gregory the Great. A procession of the Archbishop, clergy, and acolytes, preceded by Dr. O'Sullivan and Mr. W. H. Archer, K.S.G., entered the sanctuary before Mass. His Grace proceeded to the throne, and Dr. O'Sullivan knelt before him. The most rev. prelate read the Latin formula, and having blessed the cross, etc., invested the recipient with the insignia of the distinguished Order of Commendatore. The insignia is a Maltese cross suspended from the neck by a scarlet ribbon. The new Knight Commander kissed the episcopal ring and, with Mr. Archer, took his place in the sanctuary. The ceremony, though short, was witnessed with much interest by the large congregation, which included a number of public men. In the course of his sermon the Archbishop said that a great honor had been conferred by the Pope on the city of Melbourne in bestowing that distinguished title on one of its worthy citizens. That favor showed how deep an interest the Supreme Pontiff took in this distant part of the Church. One of the most devoted children of his Holiness had been invested with a distinguished Order. The recipient was reminded by that to be ever ready to defend the interests of the Church and the Holy See.

Friends at Court

CLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- January 14, Sunday.—Second Sunday after the Epiphany. The Most Holy Name of Jesus.
- " 15, Monday.—St. Ita, Virgin.
- " 16, Tuesday.—St. Fursey, Abbot.
- " 17, Wednesday.—St. Anthony, Abbot.
- " 18, Thursday.—St. Peter's Chair at Rome.
- " 19, Friday.—St. Canute, Martyr.
- " 20, Saturday.—SS. Fabian and Sebastian, Martyrs.

The Holy Name of Jesus.

St. Paul tells us that Our Lord 'humbled himself, becoming obedient unto death, even the death of the Cross. For which cause God also hath exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above all names; that in the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those that are in heaven, on earth, and under the earth.' The object of the Church in instituting the feast which we celebrate to-day was to bring before her children the sacredness of the name of Jesus, and to make atonement for the sins of those who use it irreverently.

St. Ita, Virgin.

St. Ita was born in the south of Ireland. She has always been held in great esteem in the district in which she lived, but, unfortunately, few details of her life have come down to us. She died in 570, and is styled by Colgan, the second St. Brigid of Ireland.

St. Fursey, Abbot.

St. Fursey was born in the west of Ireland, and was of noble parentage. He spent a portion of his life in England, where he founded a monastery, in the county of Suffolk. Passing over to France, he continued to labor zealously for the advancement of religion until his death in 650. The remains of St. Fursey are still preserved at Peronne, in the neighborhood of Amiens.

St. Anthony, Abbot.

St. Anthony was a native of Upper Egypt. He was left by his father in the possession of considerable wealth, but as soon as practicable he made over his property to the poor, and retired into the desert, where for many years he led a life of remarkable austerity. He died in 356, at the age of 105.

Chair of St. Peter at Rome.

This feast commemorates the residence and pontificate of St. Peter at Rome. At first he had fixed his See at Antioch, but thinking it advisable that the Supreme head of the Church should reside in the capital of the then known world, he came to Rome. His residence there extended, according to the more commonly received opinion, from A.D. 42 to his martyrdom in 67.

St. Canute, Martyr.

St. Canute was King of Denmark. He used every endeavor to solidly establish the Christian religion, which had some time previously been introduced into Denmark, and to bring about the conversion of those of his subjects who still adhered to paganism. His zeal won for him the martyr's crown, A.D. 1086.

Saints Fabian and Sebastian, Martyrs.

St. Fabian was elected Pope in 236, and governed the Church for fourteen years. His life, like that of so many of the early Popes, was closed by martyrdom, A.D. 250.

St. Sebastian was an officer of high rank in the Imperial Guard. Owing to his virtue and courage, he was much esteemed by the Emperor Diocletian, and was enabled by the influence thus acquired to protect numbers of his persecuted fellow-Christians. He was beaten to death with clubs about the year 288.

MYERS & CO., Dentists, Octagon, corner of George Street. They guarantee the highest class of work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth give general satisfaction, and the fact of them supplying a temporary denture while the gums are healing does away with the inconvenience of being months without teeth. They manufacture a single artificial tooth for Ten Shillings, and sets equally moderate. The administration of nitrous oxide gas is also a great boon to those needing the extraction of a tooth....