

## INTERCOLONIAL

The once-flourishing township of Inglewood, some 30 miles from Bendigo, has been seeing better days lately (writes the Melbourne correspondent of the 'Freeman's Journal'). A fine new church has taken the place of the old wooden structure. The Bishops of Ballarat and Bendigo joined in the opening ceremonies. Providence seems to raise up a generous soul where funds are required. A Miss Martin has given in money and kind over £1000 to the fund. Amongst her gifts is a beautiful marble altar.

Agricultural settlement in Victoria continues to progress at a rate which, considering the stagnation of the population, is remarkable and satisfactory. The return issued recently by Mr. W. M'Lean, the Government statistician, shows that the number of cultivated holdings of one acre and upwards in area is 52,598, as compared with 43,768 for the previous year. The number of acres in cultivation has risen also during the year from 4,021,590 to 4,175,614.

On Monday evening, December 11, about 30 gentlemen met in the Catholic schoolroom, Cue, to express the general gratification at Bishop Kelly's return home. Warden Troy, who presided, in a felicitous speech offered a welcome to his Lordship, which was supported by nearly everyone present. Bishop Kelly, after thanking those for their hearty welcome, gave a concise account of his few months' sojourn in the Eastern States. His Lordship stated his belief that business in Perth and Fremantle was on a more solid basis than anywhere else in the Commonwealth.

Patrick M'Gann, at the age of 103 years, died on December 31, in the Home for Aged and Infirm conducted by the Little Sisters of the Poor, at Randwick, New South Wales. M'Gann was a wonderful old man. Almost up to the time of his death he was in possession of all his faculties. He had a phenomenal memory, and could talk of events of 80 years ago as though they had occurred only the previous day. Deceased was a native of Galway, Ireland, and had passed three score years when he set out for Australia in a sailing vessel. M'Gann was a policeman in the early days.

The G.M.S. 'Grosser Kurfurst,' which called at Fremantle the other day, landed 124 passengers of the most varied nationalities and professions. They included 26 British, 21 Australians, 49 Italians, 10 Russians, 10 Germans, 3 Austrians, 2 Greeks, and 1 American, Pole, Roumanian, and New Zealander. The most favored calling was that of miner, there being no fewer than 39, mostly Italians. There were also four merchants, one hotel proprietor, four farmers, nine carpenters, five butchers, three bakers, three laborers, as well as a storekeeper, settler, engineer, gardener, smith, plumber, printer, groom, mason, fruiterer, and two fishermen.

The Very Rev. Father Bertreux, S.M., Prefect Apostolic of the southern group of the Solomon Islands, arrived in Sydney a few days ago. Father Bertreux was here at the beginning of last year (says the 'Freeman's Journal') and had printed at the Westmead Orphanage the first book of prayers in the Solomon Islands language. This book was prepared by the Marist Fathers for the use of their native converts, and the work of seeing it put through the press devolved upon the Rev. Father Bertreux, who had to do all the reading, correct proofs, etc. The strain was so much that when he returned to the Islands he found that his sight began to fail. He, however, thought it was only a passing affection and would not cause much trouble, but recently it became so acute that he was compelled to come to Sydney to consult an oculist. It is to be hoped that the devoted missionary will soon be thoroughly restored, and that he will be enabled to return to the Islands to carry on the work of evangelisation with the other self-sacrificing Marists, which up to the present has been so signally successfully.

**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...

## Friends at Court

### GLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

- January 21, Sunday.—Third Sunday after Epiphany, St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr.  
 „ 22, Monday.—SS. Vincent and Anastasius, Martyrs.  
 „ 23, Tuesday.—Espousals of the Blessed Virgin Mary.  
 „ 24, Wednesday.—St. Timothy, Bishop and Martyr.  
 „ 25, Thursday.—Conversion of St. Paul.  
 „ 26, Friday.—St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr.  
 „ 27, Saturday.—St. Vitalian, Pope and Confessor

St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr.

St. Agnes is one of the best known of the many martyrs whom the persecutions of the Roman emperors gave to the Church. She was but thirteen years of age at the time of her glorious death, in 304.

SS. Vincent and Anastasius, Martyrs.

These two saints, though commemorated on the same day, suffered at different times and in different countries. St. Vincent, a deacon, was a native of Spain. After enduring torments that are well nigh incredible, he died of his wounds at Valentia, A.D. 304.

St. Anastasius, a Persian monk, after having been cruelly tortured, was strangled in 628.

Espousals of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In this feast we commemorate the providential care with which God assigned to the Virgin Mother and her Divine Child, in the person of St. Joseph, a faithful guardian and protector in the necessities and trials of their daily life.

St. Timothy, Bishop and Martyr.

St. Timothy was a disciple of St. Paul. He was Bishop of Ephesus, and martyr, and died in 97. Born at Lystra, Lycaonia; attached himself about the year 51 to St. Paul, who associated him in all his apostolic labors; became the first Bishop of Ephesus in 65, where, being opposed to the celebration of a feast in honor of Diana, he was stoned to death. We have two Epistles of St. Paul to Timothy.

Conversion of St. Paul, Apostle.

St. Paul was born at Tarsus, of Jewish parents, and studied in Jerusalem, at the feet of Gamaliel. While still a young man he held the clothes of those who stoned the proto-martyr Stephen; and in his restless zeal he pressed on to Damascus, 'breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of Christ.' But near Damascus a light struck him to the earth. He heard a voice which said: 'Why persecutest thou Me?' He saw the form of Him Who had been crucified for his sins, and then for three days he saw nothing more. He awoke from his trance another man—a new creature in Jesus Christ. He left Damascus for a long retreat in Arabia, and then at the call of God he carried the Gospel to the uttermost limits of the then known world. With St. Peter he consecrated Rome, our holy city, by his martyrdom, and poured into its Church all his doctrine with all his blood.

St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr.

St. Polycarp was Bishop of Smyrna. He was the immediate contemporary and friend of St. Ignatius, but nothing certain is known as to his origin or the place of his birth. Irenaeus, his disciple, tells us that he was instructed by the Apostle St. John, and appointed by him Bishop of Smyrna. About the middle of the second century he journeyed to Rome to consult with Pope Anicetus regarding the time of Easter. On this occasion he brought back to the Church many who had been led away by the Gnostics, Valentine and Marcion. It is recorded that on meeting Marcion in the streets of Rome, when the latter asked him whether he knew him, he replied that he knew 'the first-born of Satan.' He was close on a hundred years old when he died the death of a martyr by the sword—having been miraculously preserved from death by fire—under Marcus Aurelius, about 166, or, according to others, about 155.

The Rev. Father S. H. McGee, of SS. Peter and Paul's Cathedral, Bathurst, accompanies his Lordship Bishop Dunne to Rome, and will remain there, it being his intention to become a member of the Society of Jesus. His many friends are resolved not to let him leave Bathurst without showing their appreciation of his services.