

never told the children to annoy Mrs. Temby. The boy Attwood was disobedient; and witness told him she was matron, not Mrs. Temby, and he must obey her. Witness did not tell him to disobey Mrs. Temby. At times witness 'fired up' at Mrs. Temby, but never before the children; she did not use the words Mrs. Temby had mentioned. Witness never called the children 'bastards,' because they were not. She used to inflict corporal punishment on the children; it was necessary to do so. She was never more severe than necessary. After Miss McArthur came she had her present when inflicting punishment, because Mrs. Temby had made remarks, and witness did not consider it safe, therefore, to punish them without a witness. They removed to Waltham in May, and then witness was matron only. She knew Mrs. Peachy before going to Waltham; Mrs. Peachy had Leslie Henderson boarded out with her, but gave him up, and he was taken into the Orphanage. It was suggested that Mrs. Peachy should take Frankie Hammond, and she had remarked that witness could 'work the point'; witness said she could not do that. She had been very friendly with Mrs. Peachy. On August 6 Mrs. Peachy went to the Orphanage at about 8 p.m. to take Gerlie Andrews, and Percy Whittle was not very well then, having a cold; Mrs. Peachy observed that he did not look very well, and wanted more nourishment; she did not say that he was a dying child. Percy had an attack of croup, and Miss McArthur looked after him; witness had another child to attend to. Between August 6 and the night of the attack of croup he was well. He was given dry bread one morning, a fortnight before he was taken to the hospital. It was because he had been running about in his nightshirt. Witness did not know of the punishment until after breakfast. She then ordered him to have hot milk and biscuits. When he was taken seriously ill she put him by the fire and rolled him in blankets. He seemed 'choky,' so she made him sick. She gave him a hot bath on the Saturday night before the fire and rolled him up again in the blanket. She did not think it was pneumonia he had until the Sunday night. She did what would have been done in the Hospital before sending for the doctor. Witness sent for the doctor on the Monday morning, as she thought then the boy had pneumonia. He was then thin and delicate, and even a day or two would alter his appearance a lot. She had a letter from Dr. Crooke, dated September 3, saying that Percy wanted witness to take him home. He made a good recovery, but required watching; he would always be delicate. She did not box his ears when he was ill. Mrs. Peachy was present once when witness gave Leslie Henderson a slap on the ear; it did not hurt him. She used to have to punish Frankie Hammond sometimes, but it was not severe. On the day referred to by Gladys Wilson, she gave Frankie half a dozen cuts across the shoulders, and he went downstairs laughing. On the night spoken of by Mr. Mellish, Gerlie and Emma Andrews had knocked over a lighted candle in the passage; they had been forbidden to touch it, because the danger of fire, and witness strapped them. They screamed, but she was not severe; they told Miss McArthur that Mrs. Peachy had told them to cry as loud as they could when they were punished. In regard to the Andrews girls' dresses, on St. Patrick's Day the children wanted some green, and witness asked if they would like green dresses. They said 'Yes,' and witness got them the green dresses and hats. The hats were made ugly by being turned into bonnets. The girls never complained about the dresses; witness had no intention of making them ridiculous. She had herself been three years in a convent school, and there the children had to keep silence. She was friendly with Father Cooney and the Sisters, and often went to see the latter. Witness used to let May Burbury go to a neighbor next to the Orphanage at Lyttelton to play with the children and mind the baby, and she was given 6d a week pocket money by the woman, Mrs. King. She had never sent children for liquor, but on one occasion there were some men employed at the Orphanage shifting furniture, and they had some beer, and she sent one of the children to Mrs. King privately to borrow some glasses. She had about 34 children under her care, and many of those who had left came back to see her. Witness never heard of any complaints before the inquiry, either as to the punishment or anything else. The children never complained about the food. There was a little difference between the children's food and hers, but not much, and no more than she considered she was entitled to as an official. Why they went without potatoes it was because they were very dear at the time. She admitted having said 'darn the children,' and called them 'little devils.' Witness said she had smoked occasionally, but it was on account of a thickness in her throat, caused by diphtheria. The chil-

dren knew nothing about it, and she had not smoked for some time past. When she did smoke it was in private, as stated by Mrs. Temby. Under the silence punishment at the Orphanage the children spoke a good deal, and were allowed to talk outside the Orphanage. She took the children out of silence if they appeared to be miserable. Ellen Attwood's fits of misery were caused by the children teasing her. Since the inquiry witness had not made any change in the general rules. The water supply had been improved, and more baths were given the children. Every child now had a towel and a tooth brush, and its own hair brushes and combs. Mrs. Henderson and Mrs. Wells had asked that they be supplied. No instructions were given her when she took the position as matron. She was supposed to manage the best she could. She was trusted by the Board, and over her was Mr. Norris, who was not hard to get on with; he trusted her a good deal, and was easy to please. It was quite right that she could endeavor to please Mr. Norris. In a letter to Mrs. Peachy on January 7 she referred to Mr. Norris as 'the boss.' In the same letter she referred to the fact that a visit was about to be made by members on the following Wednesday. She supposed Mr. Norris let her know. If he wanted her to know a visit was to be made he would do so. Porridge often got burnt; if the children showed temper in refusing it for breakfast it was warmed up and given them at dinner time, but they had the usual dinner as well. That was Miss McArthur's idea; they had to be strict. She did not give them dry bread frequently. The children did not get on well during the early days at Lyttelton under Mrs. Temby. She had called them 'little liars' and had also called them 'deceitful.' She had never called them 'damned' children. She had not called the Andrews' 'those Catholic children.' She had referred to them as 'the Catholics,' but there was no harm in that, and she had no intention of ridiculing them. She had not said in front of the others that one of the Andrews' 'crossed herself upside down,' thereby causing much merriment. She thought the green dresses made for the Andrews' were rather nice. She never did refer to the children as bastards; she might have said that the older girls 'made her life a hell.' She had not used the language alleged by May Burbury. Mrs. Temby had talked about witness's system of punishment, and that was the reason witness afterwards punished them only in the presence of Miss McArthur. She had not called Emma Andrews 'Kate,' but had told the girl that she reminded her of Kate. She had not called the girls 'squeaky' or 'cock-eye.' Ellen Attwood used to sulk a bit, but witness did not notice it much. Witness said she would have resigned, but she had to stand by when the inquiry came on.

The inquiry was adjourned until Friday, February 2.

DIocese OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

January 22.

The diocesan clergy at present in retreat, which closes on Wednesday next, number about thirty.

At the invitation of his Lordship Bishop Grimes, his Grace the Archbishop of Melbourne and his Lordship Bishop Higgins of Ballarat are to extend their present tour in New Zealand to Christchurch, so as to attend the anniversary celebrations of the opening of the Cathedral on February 12.

There were Solemn Pontifical Vespers in the Cathedral on last Sunday evening in connection with the retreat of the clergy. His Lordship the Bishop was attended by the Very Rev. Deans Ginary and Bowers as deacons at the throne. The Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais, V.G., was assistant priest, and Rev. Father O'Connell master of ceremonies. The preacher was the Very Rev. Father Clune, C.S.S.R., who from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians delivered an impressive sermon on 'Faith.' There was a crowded congregation. After Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament there was a procession of all the clergy to the episcopal residence.

A great clearing sale is now in full swing at Messrs. Herbert, Haynes, and Co., Dunedin. It began on Tuesday, and as it will only last for 14 days, our readers should secure some of the bargains...

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