

NEW BOOKS

'Catholicity and Progress in Ireland.' By Rev. M. O'Riordan, D.Ph., D.D., D.C.L. Messrs. Whitaker Bros., Lambton Quay, Wellington, have received a consignment of the third edition of this valuable work. A short time ago we gave an extended notice of this great work—the most important contribution to Irish questions since the publication of Lecky's 'Ireland in the Eighteenth Century.' Dr. O'Riordan's masterpiece was elicited by an ill-advised chapter in Sir Horace Plunkett's book, 'Ireland in the New Century.' The attack made therein on the priests and people of Ireland was indeed a felix culpa—a fortunate blunder—in so much as it led to the publication of a work which covers Catholic Ireland in its social, religious, and educational aspects, and disposes of the calumnies of Sir Horace Plunkett, and those special pets of the Orange lodge, Frank Hugh O'Donnell and Michael McCarthy, in a manner that is positively overwhelming. They suffer, not a defeat, but a debacle, at the hands of the gifted young Irishman who is now Rector of the Irish College, Rome. We hope to see a copy of this fine work in every Catholic home in New Zealand, no matter of what nationality, for it dynamites many a misconception regarding our faith beyond those that relate specially to Ireland.

'The Method of the Catholic Sunday School' (Second Series). By the Rev. P. A. Halpin (New York, Joseph F. Wagner, pp. 62, paper cover, 40 cents). This is a valuable contribution to the literature of a practical subject of great difficulty. The book deals with 'The Unattractive Sunday School' (three chapters), 'The Higher Catechism' (seven chapters), and 'Pius X. and the Catechism' (two chapters). Father Halpin is a practical teacher, and his hints and helps should do much to lift from the Sunday-school that atmosphere of chloroform which so often dulls it into impassability. A useful manual for priests and teachers.

'Teacher's Handbook to Bible History.' By the Rev. A. Urban. (Same publishers, 374 pages 8vo., cloth gilt, 10s. 50cts.) The sub-title gives the scope of the work: 'A Practical Commentary upon the principal events of the Old and New Testaments, with directions for their application in the religious and moral training of children.' The book covers the whole history of the Old and New Testaments, devoting to the former 93 lessons and to the latter 103. Each chapter is divided into Preparation, Narration, Explanation, Commentary, and Moral Application. A useful feature of the book is the manner in which the author makes his commentaries and explanations fit in with and aid catechetical instruction. The explanatory matter is put simply, clearly, and straightforwardly, and the moral applications arise properly out of the subject and are both practical and suited to those for whom they are intended. We commend the book to all who are interested in the religious instruction of youth.

'The Four Winds of Eirinn.' Poems by Ethna Carbery (Anna MacManus). Edited by Seumas MacManus. (Complete edition. Dublin, M. H. Gill and Son). Ethna Carbery (whose poems we mentioned some time ago) is now, we hope, singing with the angels. She was long one of Ireland's sweet singers, and the present complete collection of her poems—lovingly gathered from the four winds of Eirinn, and from many places beyond, form her most fitting monument. The atmosphere of bog-land and mountain-side is upon the poems of Ethna Carbery, and one hears in her pages the legends and tales of Eld that are told by many a fireside in 'Ould Donegal,' and the hopes that fill many a heart in Ireland for 'Mo Chraoibhin Cno' (Mo chreeveen no)—the brown-haired girl that personifies their native land.

'Then wake, a gradh! We yet shall win a golden crown
for your head,
Strong wine to make a royal feast—the white wine and
the red—
And in your oaken mether the yellow mead shall flow,
What day you rise, in all men's eyes—a Queen
Mo Chraoibhin Cno.'

The poems are brought out in quaint and attractive style, and several of them are being wedded to ancient Irish airs from Petrie's collection. (The books mentioned in these notices are procurable through all booksellers advertising in our columns).

'English History from the Norman Conquest to the End of the Wars of the Roses.' In Twenty Stories. Revised by the Right Rev. Francis Aidan Gasquet, D.D. (London, George Bell and Sons, pp. 200, cloth lettered, 32 illustrations; 1s 3d). Recent events in New Zealand have been sufficient to convince Catholics of the necessity of having proper history manuals in their schools. The book now before us is No. 2 of The Abbey History Readers, and the name of Dr. Gasquet is sufficient

guarantee that these stories are true to historic fact and free from the distortions that prejudiced and ill-informed writers have contrived to introduce into some of the history manuals in use in many of our State schools. The stories are well selected and well told in direct and simple language, and the paper, type, and binding leave nothing to be desired.

OBITUARY

MRS. HUMPHRY GEANEY.

(From our Timaru correspondent.)

There passed away at Cairnsmore Private Hospital, Timaru, on Tuesday evening last, in her 30th year, Mrs. Humphry Geaney, one of the most widely known and esteemed Catholic ladies in South Canterbury. She was a daughter of Mr. J. Kenny, of this town, and a sister of Mrs. T. J. Burns. Scarcely indeed has such widespread sympathy been shown at any demise as has been tendered to her sorrowing husband and relatives. Born in the Waikato district in 1876, her education was commenced in the Christchurch Convent and completed at the Sacred Heart Convent, Timaru. On leaving school she taught for two years in our Catholic boys' school, then on the advent of the Marist Brothers she took charge of the Catholic mixed school at Gisborne for three and a half years till the Sisters came, and then spent two years more assisting in the girls' school, Timaru. She was a successful and devoted teacher, and her ex-pupils and their parents speak in the highest terms of the good done by her teaching and example. Later on she married Mr. Humphry Geaney, of Makikihi. Since settling there she had been more than ever active in Church work, and particularly devoted herself to forming the present fine choir of nineteen members, which is a credit to a church in a scattered country district, and more particularly reflects the energy and devotion of her who has passed away. She died as she had lived, a pious, fervent Catholic. A Requiem Mass was celebrated by Rev. Father Le Floch on Thursday morning for the repose of her soul, a large congregation attending. The funeral took place the same afternoon, and was one of the most imposing that has left the church for a considerable time.—R.I.P.

NEW ZEALAND: GENERAL

Out of four candidates presented by the Sisters of the Mission, Nelson, for the Junior Civil Service, three were successful. These were Katie Condell, Emily Wiesner, and Mary Devlin.

On a recent Sunday (according to the Hawera 'Star') the Very Rev. Father Power announced that he had compiled the particulars of the Catholic parish of Hawera for the year 1905. During that period there had been 4200 Communion, and he considered that no place in New Zealand of the size of Hawera could boast such a record.

At the monthly meeting of the Thames Hospital Trustees on February 5 the election of chairman took place. On Mr. Paul's motion, seconded by Mr. Burns, it was unanimously resolved that Monsignor O'Reilly be re-elected chairman for the ensuing year. Messrs. Paul and Burns paid a glowing tribute to Monsignor O'Reilly's zeal and untiring efforts on behalf of the hospital; he discharged his duties in a faithful and unostentatious manner, and was the right man in the right place. Monsignor O'Reilly thanked the members for the honor they had done in re-electing him, and for their complimentary references, and assured them of his continued interest in the institution he represented.

Sincere regret was felt in Dunedin on Monday when it became known that one of the best known and genial of its citizens, in the person of Mr. John P. Armstrong, had passed away on the previous day at Palmerston South, where he had resided for the past few years for the benefit of his health. Mr. Armstrong had been identified with the public life of Otago for many years, and for over forty years was engaged in business in Dunedin. Mr. Armstrong had a varied career. He was born near Wexford town in 1828, and on reaching a suitable age was apprenticed to a Dublin chemist, where he gained a good knowledge of dentistry. In 1848 he went to America, but returned to Ireland after a stay of two years. Later on he came out to Victoria and from there came to New Zealand, settling down in Dunedin in 1861, being the first dentist to start in the city. He was a member of the Otago Provincial Council for a number of years, and always took a keen interest in public affairs. A few years ago he retired from business and went to reside at Palmerston, where he passed away, as previously stated.

Hancock's Imperial ALE and STOUT.

GOLD MEDAL ST. LOUIS EXHIBITION.
Bottled in Auckland.