

NEW ZEALAND RAILWAYS

NEW ZEALAND INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION AT CHRISTCHURCH.

1st NOVEMBER, 1906, to 4th APRIL, 1907.

HOLIDAY EXCURSION TICKETS, at 2d per mile First Class, and 1d per mile Second Class, will be issued from ANY STATION on the Hurunui-Bluff Section to CHRISTCHURCH, from Thursday, 25th October, 1906, to Tuesday, 2nd April, 1907 (inclusive).

These tickets will be available for return for two months from date of issue.

BY ORDER.

WANTED,—A NURSERY GOVERNESS for the Country; one little girl of seven.—Apply Mrs. Scoble Cornish, Kiwitea, Feilding.

WANTED to LEASE or PURCHASE SMALL STORE, with Section, in Suburb or rising Township (either Island).

Full particulars to "STORE,"
'Tablet' Office.

DEATHS

RYAN.—At Westport, on September 6, 1906, James Ryan, sen., native of County Tipperary, Ireland; aged 74 years.—Deeply regretted. Jesus and Mary have mercy on his soul.—R.I.P.

HEFFERNAN.—On September 26, 1906, at his residence, Murray street, Greymouth, William Heffernan, native of Barronstown, Tipperary, Ireland; aged 68 years.—R.I.P.

MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIII. TO THE N.Z. TABLET.

Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitiæ causam promovere per vias Veritatis et Pacis.

Die 4 Aprilis, 1900.

LEO XIII., P.M.

TRANSLATION.—Fortified by the Apostolic Blessing, let the Directors and Writers of the New Zealand Tablet continue to promote the cause of Religion and Justice by the ways of Truth and Peace.

April 4, 1900.

LEO XIII., Pope.



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1906.

'BRIBERY, FORCE AND FRAUD'



ACCORDING to the latest mails, rumors and surmises are buzzing like swarming bees about the Bryce-MacDonnell 'message of hope' to Ireland. T. P. O'Connor (according to a recent cable-message) accepts the message at its face value, and declares that 'only a few hours separate Ireland from her glorious goal'. On the other hand, an article in the London 'Daily Chronicle' that has been extensively copied by the New Zealand press, enters with much detail into what it declares to be the Government measure—a measure which, if the forecast is accurate (and on this point we are unable to pronounce), would not be the fulfilment of the 'message

of hope', but a mockery, a delusion, and a snare. The new Irish Council, as outlined by the 'Chronicle', would (says an English contemporary) 'thoroughly deserve the title of a mock Parliament'. The same paper adds that, if the 'Chronicle' is correct (which it does not assume),

'Everything is to remain as it was. The Union will not be affected; the Irish representation at Westminster will not be interfered with; and the powers of the Imperial Parliament will remain just what they are. The only change will be the establishment of a meeting house in Dublin, where gentlemen elected by the people may talk to their hearts' content. They will be permitted to discuss nearly all sorts of subjects, including education and police, and to suggest legislation, but beyond that apparently they are not to go. Nay, special care will be taken to bind them hand and foot, so that they may exercise only their eloquatory faculties. We cannot think of the scheme otherwise than as a sublimely audacious piece of fooling.'

The administration of Viceroy Lord Fitzwilliam stands as a pillar of salt in Irish history—a warning example of the dangers of raising the people's hopes to a pinnacle, and then dashing them to the ground. A measure as outlined by the 'Chronicle' would exasperate, and not conciliate. And Mr. Redmond has made it perfectly clear that no tinkering or makeshift scheme will be acceptable to the Irish people—that nothing will satisfy the aspirations of the nation but a true and proper Parliament, with an Executive responsible to it, instead of the present forty-one departments of Dublin Castle, over which the country has no manner of control.

The heart of the country has ever been set hard against the Union. When, in 1799, efforts were made to induce the old Irish Protestant Parliament to commit political suicide, even the Orangemen were among the most strenuous opponents of the Union—till their Grand Secretary, Beresford, took his stand among the venal crowd who sold their votes, their consciences, and their country for gold. The Act of Union was carried, in the face of the solid public opinion of the country, 'by bribery, force, and fraud'. The 116 placemen in the House were openly terrorised into support of the measure. The opposition of 'rotten' and 'pocket boroughs' was brought up at a cost of £1,200,000. And the country had to pay the price of its betrayal; for the cost of Castlereagh's vast scheme of bribery and corruption was added to the Irish national debt. There were other baits galore. British secret service money was lavished upon the Irish Bar and Parliament. 'Over £1,000,000,' says Morrison Davidson, 'was spent in direct bribes. A single vote cost £8000 down, or an appointment to an office worth £2000 a year if ready money was not wanted. Twenty peerages, ten bishoprics, one chief justiceship, six puisne judgeships, and many appointments, military, naval, and civil, were showered on traitors or their relations. Vast sums were spent on corrupting the Bar—a body of great influence in the country. The Bar, however, proved less venal than the Parliament. Lecky (a Unionist) says of the open, wholesale, and shameless bribery which was the chief instrument in bringing about the legislative Union between Great Britain and Ireland: 'It is a simple and unexaggerated statement of fact, that in the entire history of representative government there is no instance of corruption having been applied on so large a scale and with such audacious effrontery.'

It is needless to dwell here upon the disastrous economic results that have been wrought in Ireland by this ill-starred Union. 'Woe to the land on whose judgment seat a stranger sits, at whose gates a stranger watches—and (Mitchel adds) whose books a stranger keeps.' Grattan voiced the hope and feeling of the unpurchasable and incorruptible members of the old Parliament in the concluding words of his great protest against the Act of Union:—

HENRY HUGHES

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