

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

THE Members of the ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY wish to **THANK** the Gentlemen of the Dance and Social Committee for their Generous Donation.

D. PURTON, Hon. Sec.

ST. PATRICK'S COLLEGE, WELLINGTON.

... SCHOLARSHIPS. ...

FOUR SCHOLARSHIPS of the yearly value of £25 each, tenable for four years, will be offered for COMPETITION in December, 1906. These Scholarships are open to all Catholic Boys attending the Parochial Schools of the Colony.

CONDITIONS.

1. Candidates for Scholarships must be under the age of fourteen on the first day of January, 1906.
2. Application to be examined should be forwarded to the Rector before the tenth day of November, 1906; such application to contain (a) a letter of recommendation from the Parish Priest; (b) a certificate of date of birth; (c) an entrance fee of 10/-
3. The examinations will be conducted in writing, and will be held late in December, 1906, at centres to suit the general convenience of candidates.
4. Candidates will be examined in (a) The New Zealand Catechism, No. 2; (b) Writing, Spelling, English Grammar, Essay, and Arithmetic. The questions will be of the same grade of proficiency as the Sixth Standard, Board of Education.
5. The Scholarships will be allotted in the order of merit to those candidates who obtained the highest aggregate of marks.
6. A Scholarship will be forfeited unless the successful candidate shall have lodged the sum of £20 with the College Procurator on or before the fifteenth day of February in each year of tenure, and unless he shall be present in the College on the first day of each session.
7. Should the diligence or conduct of any Scholar prove unsatisfactory, the Rector is empowered to declare his Scholarship vacant.
8. In all questions concerning the obtaining or holding of Scholarships, the decision of the Rector shall be final.
9. All Scholars must provide a full outfit according to College Prospectus.

AUGUSTINE KEOGH, S.M., B.A.,

St. Patrick's College,

RECTOR.

1st October, 1906.

TO THE CLERGY.

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EDITOR'S NOTICES.

Send news **WHILE IT IS FRESH.** Stale reports will not be inserted.

Communications should reach this Office **BY TUESDAY MORNING.** Only the briefest paragraphs have a chance of insertion if received by Tuesday night's mails.

ADDRESS matter intended for publication 'Editor, TABLET, Dunedin,' and not by name to any member of the Staff.

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATIONS are thrown into the waste-paper basket.

Write legibly, **ESPECIALLY NAMES** of persons and places. Reports of **MARRIAGES** and **DEATHS** are not selected or compiled at this Office. To secure insertion they must be verified by our local agent or correspondent, or by the clergyman of the district, or by some subscriber whose handwriting is well known at this office. Such reports must in every case be accompanied by the customary death or marriage announcement, for which a charge of 2s. 6d. is made.

The publication of an advertisement in a Catholic paper shows that the advertiser not only desires the patronage of Catholics, but pays them the compliment of seeking it through the medium of their own religious journal. So says an esteemed and wide-awake American contemporary. A word to the wise is sufficient.

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

Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitiae 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 25, 1906.

THE MAORI



LIKE Dryden's hind, the Maori, though doomed to death, seems fated not to die. According to the current 'New Zealand Year-Book' (just published) the long-sustained decay of our splendid race, that went dolefully on till 1896, has apparently been arrested. For the second time the census marks an increase in the brown men's ranks. To some extent hope may here tell a flattering tale—a percentage of the apparent numerical increase may, for instance, be possibly due to the diminution or disappearance of the distrust with which many Maoris long regarded the census-taker. But even when allowance has been made for this, the census-paper increase of the Native race from 39,854 in 1896 to 43,143 in 1901, and to 47,731 in 1906 affords a solid ground for the hope that this ancient and interesting people is being rescued from the decay that seems to fall like a blight upon aboriginal tribes when they come into contact with modern non-Catholic civilisation.

In the days before the white man settled upon these islands, the Maori race seems to have been far more numerous than at the present time. Judge Maning, of the Native Lands Court, had quite exceptional opportunities of securing information on this subject. 'The natives,' says he in 'Old New Zealand,' 'are unanimous in affirming that they were much more numerous in former times than they are now, and I am convinced that such was the case, for many reasons.' The evidence on which Maning and others base this judgment may be briefly stated as follows: The great number of deserted pas or hill-forts that are scattered over a great area of the North Island. 'From the top of one of these pointed, trenched, and terraced hills,' says he, 'I have counted twenty others, all of equally large dimensions, and all within a distance, in every direction, of fifteen to twenty miles; and native tradition affirms that each of these hills was the stronghold of a separate "hapu", or clan, bearing its distinctive name'. Many of these forts were erected on so extensive a scale that they must have taken a large local population to construct them within a reasonable time with the stone and bone and wooden tools of the old Maori days. For when those weed-grown, hill-top villages were erected, iron was unknown to the Native race, and there was not so much as a tinned tack in all New Zealand. Many of these forts,' says Travers in his 'Te Rau-paraha', 'were of such an extent that taking into consideration the system of attack and defence necessarily used before the introduction of fire-arms—they would have been utterly untenable unless held by at least ten

HENRY HUGHES

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