

HASTINGS

The United Friendly Societies held a demonstration on the racecourse, Hastings, on Sunday, December 2, on behalf of the Napier Hospital funds. Among the friendly societies who took part in the procession were the Hibernians to the number of 105. Addresses were delivered by the Mayor of Hastings, Very Rev. Dean Smyth, Sir William Russell, Mr. A. L. D. Fraser, M.H.R., Mr. Dillon, M.H.R., and others.

Dean Smyth spoke on Christian Charity, and showed how, from the very first, the Church made provision for the poor, the sick, the old, and the infirm. From the early days of Christianity down to the present time, hospitals and institutions for the alleviation of human misery had been established and fostered by the Church. And in our own times, who has not heard of the devotedness and self-sacrifice of the Sisters of Charity, the Sisters of Mercy, and other associations, of noble-minded and charitable women, who perpetuate those great works of charity in hospitals and on the battlefield? And what has prompted these heroic women to devote their lives to such a grand work? The teaching and spirit of their Divine Master. And by whom have they been encouraged and prepared for the work? By the Church founded by that same Divine Master. Yes, it is the spirit of Christ, the abiding influence of Christianity that has infused life, strength, and vigor into those natural traits of ours, not merely giving them expansion, but imparting to them a superhuman force and power of endurance which human nature, left to itself, would never possess. And so deeply had this spirit rooted itself in the breast of humanity in general, that though individuals may have lost it or shaken it off, its beneficent influence hovers round them in spite of themselves; and, though nowadays many perform good and kind and praiseworthy works through a purely philanthropic spirit, without any Christian motive on their part, these actions emanate from a traditional spirit of Christianity—not acknowledged if you will, but all the same handed down to them, perhaps from their saintly forefathers.

Concert at Kerrytown

An event which is always looked forward to with much eagerness (says the 'Temuka Leader') is the annual entertainment by the pupils of the Sisters of St. Joseph, Kerrytown, who, of late years, have been assisted by adult friends, with the object of suiting all tastes of the large audiences which assemble annually to witness these bright performances. Though the aspect of the weather on the evening of November 29 was anything but promising, the schoolroom was packed. The stage and scenery were excellent. The following was the programme:—Pianoforte trio, Misses N. and L. Driscoll, and M. Scannell; club drill in costume, Masters T. Fitzgerald, Brosnan (3), G. Tozer, F. Naughton; song, Miss Story; pianoforte duet, Misses Petrie and Brosnan; song, Master V. Coira; song, Miss K. Daly; song, Mr. Milson (Temuka); dialogue, Master J. Brosnan and Miss M. Scannell; pianoforte duet, Master T. and Miss M. Fitzgerald; humorous song, Mr. Crawford (Timaru). The farce, 'The Doctor's Assistant,' in which the characters were sustained by Masters J. Brosnan, F. O'Connell, M. Brosnan, and T. Brosnan, brought the first part of the programme to a close. The second part opened with a pianoforte duet by Misses L. Wall and M. Fitzgerald, followed by a song by Rev. Father Finnerty; selection, by the Banjo Band; song, Mr. McBride; song, Miss Beri; song, Mr. Jordan; pianoforte duet, Misses M. and G. Nolan; Irish reel (in costume), Misses K. Brosnan and M. Lynch. The last item was a drama entitled, 'The Motor Bus,' in which the characters were sustained by Misses H. Breen, M. Brosnan, Scannell, and W. Brosnan, and Masters J. Brosnan, T. Brosnan, M. Brosnan, F. O'Connell, and D. Scannell. The audience was convulsed with laughter from beginning to end of the piece. The singers were principally accompanied by Mr. C. Collins in his able manner, Miss Beri also officiating with her well-known skill. The Sisters of St. Joseph may justly feel proud of the success which attended their labors on this occasion. An infinite amount of pains must have been bestowed upon the children to bring them up to the stage of efficiency which they all exhibited throughout the entertainment, a notable feature of which was the pianoforte pieces. Though the performers in every case were, very young, their efforts reflected great credit on the capabilities of the Sisters of St. Joseph as teachers, who, since their advent in Kerrytown, have made the place quite renowned for musical talent. During the interval the Rev. Father Kerley took the opportunity of thanking the performers who had come from a distance, and the audience for their patronage.

Domestic

By 'Maureen'

Hints for the Kitchen.

Don't entice flies into your kitchen by leaving a little milk in one cup and grease in another between meals. Scald your tin vessels with soda and water. Wash your table ware in soapsuds and rinse them in water slightly blue. Keep handy a piece of sand paper to rub your steel knives. Put your silver, spoons, knives, and forks in a white flannel bag containing powdered chalk. When the knives and forks are stained with eggs, scour them with common table salt. Medicine stains can be removed from spoons in the same manner. The gridiron should be well greased and hot before putting meat on it.

Don't Boil Tea.

Tea should not be boiled, and should be made fresh at each meal by pouring boiling water upon the leaves, which are put into a perfectly clean teapot. The boiling water will extract the good of the tea, and the teapot should not be set on the stove at all. Made in this way, tea is a good, wholesome, cheering drink which will do no harm to anyone. What, for example, is more refreshing to the jaded man of business after a heavy day's work, or to the woman tired out with a day's shopping?—that is to say, if shopping is not so entrancing an occupation that it is impossible for a woman to get tired of it.

A Recipe for Keeping Young.

Someone once asked a woman how it was she kept her youth so wonderfully. Her hair was snowy white, she was eighty years old, and her energy was waning; but she never impressed one with the idea of age, for her heart was still young in sympathy and interest. And this was her answer: 'I know how to forget disagreeable things. I tried to master the art of saying pleasant things. I did not expect too much of my friends. I kept my nerves well in hand, and did not allow them to bore other people. I tried to find any work that came to my hand congenial. I did my best to relieve the misery I came in contact with and sympathised with the suffering. In fact, I tried to do to others as I would be done by, and you see me, in consequence, reaping the fruits of happiness in a peaceful old age.'

When Glass Stoppers Stick.

Often your prettiest cut-glass winegarnish cruet is ruined because the stopper suddenly becomes immovable, and no power on earth short of breaking seems to move it. When it does stick, pour a little oil round the top. Let it stand for ten or fifteen minutes, and then try knocking the stopper gently with the back of a knife, giving it an upward motion. Continue this knocking all the way round the stopper. This is the best chance of loosening without running any risks of breaking. But if the stoppers of oil and vinegar cruets are exchanged every few days the trouble will be prevented.

Women and Red Noses.

Red noses are usually associated with indigestion, or worse, but a German doctor says that it is due to the use of a veil. This Berlin authority found that the redness was most marked when the veil rested closely against the nose. When the veil was abandoned the redness in most cases disappeared. Although veils are seemingly soft to the touch, the threads soon become roughened, and are capable of irritating the sensitive skin of nose and cheek, against which the veil rubs. In winter the evaporation of moisture from the nose is apt to moisten the veil, which acts exactly like a wet compress. The shape of the nose is likewise slightly altered by the pressure of the veil. The pressure upon the tip of the nose renders the latter somewhat anaemic and drives the blood to the neighboring parts, chiefly to the regions bordering on or above the point and to the lateral wings. On entering a warm room the abnormal distribution of the blood becomes intensified unless the veil is quickly removed.

Maureen

Town originally referred simply to a farmhouse. Miscreant originally meant an infidel or a renegade. Blackguard originally meant the kitchen boys and pot washers employed in a gentleman's kitchen.

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