

Memorial Church to the Irish Martyrs, CROMWELL

FURTHER CONTRIBUTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Previously acknowledged ...	612	7	3
Hibernian Society, Dunedin Branch	3	3	0
Mrs McGinnis, Earnscleugh Flat	1	0	0
Total ...	£616	10	3

(To be Continued).

All contributions to be addressed to the Rev. G. M. Hunt, Cromwell.

CONVENT OF THE SACRED HEART TIMARU.

THE ANNUAL SPIRITUAL RETREAT FOR LADIES

Will begin at 7 p.m. on WEDNESDAY, the 9th day of JANUARY, 1907, and will end on the morning of MONDAY, the 14th JANUARY.

The Retreat will be preached by the Rev. Father O'Dwyer, S.J.

CONVENT OF THE SACRED HEART Island Bay, Wellington.

THE ANNUAL SPIRITUAL RETREAT FOR LADIES

Will begin at 7.30 p.m. on MONDAY, the 7th day of JANUARY, 1907, and end on the morning of SATURDAY, 12th of JANUARY.

The Retreat will be preached by the Very Rev. J. Ryan, S.J.

Ladies who wish to attend should apply to the

REVEREND MOTHER SUPERIOR.

ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, AUCKLAND

BISHOP LENIHAN offers his good wishes to all friends at this holy season and for the new year, and asks their kind assistance towards the completion of St. Patrick's Cathedral.

Donations will be duly acknowledged.

O M A K A U A R T U N I O N

DRAWING will absolutely take place on JANUARY 1, 1907. Father O'Dea makes a final appeal to his kind friends and well-wishers who still hold books to return books with remittances, and enable him to make the Art Union what he anticipated—a great success.

IN MEMORIAM

M'CHESNEY.—In ever loving memory of James M'Chesney, who died December 14, 1905.—R.I.P.

Notice to Correspondents

Owing to the pressure on our space we have been obliged to hold over several school reports, all of which we intend to publish next week in a special supplement.

Correspondence intended for our issue of January 3 should reach us not later than the preceding Saturday.

The train arrangements for the Christmas holidays are advertised in this issue.

The proprietors of the Melbourne 'Advocate' have received the right to publish in Australia the last work of the late Mr. Michael Davitt, 'From Ballybrack to Jericho,' in which the distinguished writer gives his personal reminiscences. The first chapter will be commenced in the issue of the 'Advocate' for January 5. Further particulars will be found in our advertising columns.

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, DECEMBER 20, 1906.

'CHRIST-HUNTING' IN FRANCE



THE last stage in the atheist campaign against Christianity in France opened on the twelfth instant. The first skirmishes in the Armageddon of these two irreconcilable forces are now proceeding, and the civilised world has its eyes upon the scene and its mind in tension awaiting the results of the grand onset that is coming. The French Ministry has made its object brutally plain. Their object is not merely (as their organ, the 'Siccle', put it) 'to shake off the yoke of the Papacy'. The boast of the Premier, M. Clemenceau, is that he has scaled heaven and dethroned God. And his colleague, M. Briand, recently declared with a collective 'we' at Amiens, in words oft quoted by us, that the Ministry mean to 'hunt Christ out of the Government' of France and to 'put an end to Christianity' in that unhappy country. 'It is', says the 'Pall Mall Gazette' (London), 'a pity that the leaders of public opinion in this country should fail to realise the simple truth that the present struggle in France is not between the reasonable freedom of the State and clerical domination, but between aggressive atheism and the "idee chretienne" (Christianity). It is' (says a Protestant clergyman, the Rev. Custis P. Jones, in a letter written on October 10 to the Baltimore 'Sun') 'the work of the common enemy—atheism—of Christians of every name, Protestants as well as Catholics, and the success of this foul blow against the Church of Rome would only turn over France to infidelity, and not to Protestantism'. The following are some of the features of the new onset against religion in France: (1) A Bill is to be pushed through Parliament for the immediate confiscation of churches, presbyteries, seminaries, etc., and the conversion of them to secular uses—with the exception of such churches as have been taken over by schismatic associations of laymen. (2) Bishops and priests who decline to fall in with the Government effort to force a lay, instead of a hierarchical, rule upon the Church, will be deprived of their civil rights—in other words, be treated as outlaws—and liable to banishment. (3) Persons conducting or assisting at any unauthorised act of public worship are liable to be imprisoned along with thieves, forgers, and other common malefactors. (4) Any priest or layman who denounces such tyranny or persecution is liable to fine or imprisonment. He will not, however, have the privilege of being tried by a jury of his peers, but by a Correctional Tribunal composed of judges appointed by the Government—after the fashion of the 'promovables' and 'removables' of such execrated name in

HENRY HUGHES

Information & Pamphlet free on application.

INTERNATIONAL PATENT AGENT. (Estab. 1882).
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