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T + ABLET

THIRTY-FIFTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION

DUNEDIN, THURSDAY, JANUARY 3, 1907

Price 6d.

VOLUME

XXXV

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No. 1

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CLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

January 6, Sunday.—Feast of the Epiphany.
 „ 7, Monday.—Of the Octave.
 „ 8, Tuesday.—Of the Octave.
 „ 9, Wednesday.—Of the Octave.
 „ 10, Thursday.—Of the Octave.
 „ 11, Friday.—Of the Octave.
 „ 12, Saturday.—Of the Octave.

Feast of the Epiphany.

This festival is set apart to solemnly commemorate the coming of the three wise men from the East, guided by a miraculous star which appeared to them, and directed them to Bethlehem, where they found Christ in the stable; here they honored and adored Him and offered gifts to Him.

The Octave of a Feast.

The octave of a feast is the period of eight days assigned for its celebration during which is repeated every day a part of the office of the feast, as the hymns, antiphons, or verses, with one or several lessons referring to the subject. On the eighth day, the octave properly speaking, the office is more solemn than that of the preceding days. Generally the most solemn feasts, like Christmas, Easter, Pentecost, Corpus Christi, the feast of the patron saint, are accompanied by an octave.

GRAINS OF GOLD

GREETING, NEW YEAR.

Greeting, New Year, upon the threshold standing!

You find us quiet—in the year just fled,
 So many things we might have done and said
 Whereby the sad world had been comforted.
 You bring us pages of unfolding days,
 Bound round with pain and patience, prayer and praise—
 Some joy (we see it in your smiling eyes)
 Because the One Who sends you is so wise.

Greeting, New Year, upon the threshold standing!

In God's dear Name, unworthy though I be,
 I reach my hands for all you bring to me,
 With one fixed thought, to serve Him faithfully.
 Come in, New Year, and may the while we spend,
 Go, purposeful, unto a fitting end,
 So when you stand where stood the vanished year,
 I speed you with a smile and not a tear.

The most fatal wreck that can overtake you in times of sorrow is the wreck of faith. When things go against us, when our loved ones are taken from us, that is not a call to bitter weeping, but to new duty.

Behave as at a banquet—take with gratitude and moderation what is set before you, and seek for nothing more. A larger and diviner step will be to be ready and able to forego even that which is given you.

With common diseases strength grows decrepit, youth loses all vigor, and beauty all charms; music grows harsh, and conversation disagreeable; palaces are prisons, or of equal confinement; riches are useless, honor and attendance are cumbersome, and crowns are burdens, but if diseases are painful and violent, they equal all conditions of life, make no difference between a prince and a beggar, and an attack of neuralgia puts a king on the rack, and makes him as miserable as the meanest, the worst, and the most criminal of his subjects.

In ancient times there stood in the citadel of Athens three statues of Minerva. The first was of olive wood, and, according to popular tradition, had fallen from Heaven. The second was of bronze, commemorating the victory of Marathon; and the third of gold and ivory—a great miracle of art, in the days of Pericles. And thus in the citadel of time stands man himself. In childhood, shaped of soft and delicate wood, just fallen from Heaven; in manhood a statue of bronze, commemorating struggle and victory; and, lastly, in the maturity of age, perfectly shaped in gold and ivory—a miracle of art!

The Rev. J. J. Malone, P.P., Daylesford, and the Rev. W. Ganly, P.P., St. Kilda West, leave shortly for Europe. They will probably be absent about twelve months.

The Storyteller

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

(Concluded from last week.)

An hour later he was ushered into the sick-room. He was more deeply moved than he would have cared to acknowledge. A veritable tempest of emotion swept over him, and in the midst of it all he found himself marvelling that time had dealt so kindly with her whom he had treated so cruelly. True, the ravages of dread apyphoid were only too evident, but they could not conceal the fact that in health the victim had been a handsome, well-preserved woman.

As Durant slowly advanced to the side of the couch, she extended a trembling hand, saying:

'Herbert—let me call you by the old name once more—you were surprised to receive my message, but I could not at this hour forget the promise I made to your dear mother. She asked me, as her dying request, to urge upon you the necessity of being true to your religion, which she discovered you neglected after you became a successful broker. To her last wish let me add my own. Will you not, in consideration of our old friendship, promise me on my deathbed to do this? It will destroy much of the pain of death to know that I have not been altogether a faithless messenger of your mother, although I delayed so long the delivery of her message. She is praying for you this Christmas Eve, and I feel that you cannot remain indifferent to her prayers.'

The effort was too much for the invalid. Her head sank upon the pillow. Durant vainly tried to conceal his emotion. Speak he could not, so deeply touched was he by the words of his former fiancée, bearing a message from the grave. In a few minutes the sufferer regained her strength.

'Herbert,' she repeated, 'my moments here are numbered, and you must answer now. Do you refuse the only request I ever made of you?'

The battle was won. Durant, moved to the innermost depths of his soul, was only too eager to retrace his steps—to begin all over again. He had succumbed. With his first step over the threshold of the sick-room, he had felt the aims and aspirations of the recent past slipping away, and the spirit of the earlier, happier days returning. This appeal from the other world, transmitted by one whom he believed to be on the verge of eternity, obliterated the last remnant of his powers of resistance.

'No, Clara,' he replied, and there was a world of tenderness and regret in his tone; 'I do not refuse. The sight of your face has brought me to my senses, and I realise now my mistake. Money came to me, but not happiness. Yet I should not complain, for I received no more than I deserved. I grant your request. Will you not grant mine? Don't give up. Make an effort to live, for while there is life there is hope. Live to help me undo the past. The doctor orders me to leave you. Before I go let me return what was once yours.'

And as he spoke he took from his pocket-book a ring, which he slipped upon her finger. And she! What a transfiguration! Amazement, unutterable joy—these were the feelings expressed in the wan countenance. And they were his only answer. Stooping, he reverently kissed her brow and withdrew—a changed man. Not to his home, but to St. Agnes' rectory were his steps directed. The pastor had just come from the confessional, and Durant was closeted with him for an hour. Then he started for his home. He had not gone far before he decided that, as he was happy, he would try if it were possible to make some one else happy. He returned to Mr. Deberg's and requested that gentleman to convey to Clara the intelligence that his Christmas Holy Communion would be offered for her recovery.

Then, knowing that Mr. Deberg was president of a Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, he asked for the name and address of some poor family, and was directed to the most destitute family on the list. For at least a quarter of a century he had been unfamiliar with scenes of poverty, and was not prepared for the spectacle that greeted him on the upper floor of an old tenement. Here a woman and five children made their abode. The room was almost bare, there being no fire and but a few pieces of furniture to relieve the desolate scene. He asked but few questions, and then called the oldest boy, a manly little fellow of twelve years, to go with him to the nearest department store, where he purchased an oil stove and a basket of provisions, which they carried in their arms, as nothing could be delivered that evening.

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far exceeded my most sanguine anticipations. For run-down
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refreshing and invigorating than a course of Mr. Booth's treat-
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Mr. and Mrs. TODD (late of Silver Grid,
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throughout, patrons may rely upon having
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Hendy's three-
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Pompadour
Frames, covered
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Ladies whose
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dispensable, as
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throughout Otago and Southland,
and is, without doubt, the VERY
BEST. It is put up in four
qualities, packed in 1lb. and 1/2lb.
packets, and 5lb. and 10lb. tins.

The stove was filled and lighted and the baskets unpacked, to the delight of the almost famished children. Handing the surprised mother a banknote, Mr. Durant told her to purchase what they needed, and that he would see her the next day to arrange for her to move into a small house which he would furnish as a Christmas gift for the children. To her torrent of tearful thanks he replied with a motion of silence. As he was about to leave she asked:

'Have you any special favor you would wish us to pray for, as long as you will not accept our thanks?'

'Yes, my good woman,' Durant quickly replied; 'please pray and have the little ones pray for the recovery of one at the point of death.'

'We will pray, good sir,' answered the happy mother, 'and my two eldest children and myself will offer our Holy Communion for this intention tomorrow.'

'You could not do more had you millions,' he replied.

Never had the altar been so bright, the flowers so fragrant, the music so sweet as on that Christmas morning, or at least not to Durant, who, for the first time in twenty-five years, knelt to receive the Bread of Life. The dark clouds of despondency rolled away, and all nature seemed joyous to him, as it did in his childhood. After breakfast he called at the home of the widow he had befriended the previous evening, and gave her the key to a small house he had recently purchased and an order for the necessary furniture. Then he went to late Mass. In the evening, his heart now chilled by dread fear, and again beating wildly with strange hope, in which the prayers and Communion of the widow and her children figured as a foundation, he called at the Deberg residence. There his cup of happiness was filled. The patient had rallied, quite unexpectedly the physician said, and it was even thought she had passed the crisis and was permanently on the road to recovery.

Durant did not see her that day, nor for many days, but at their next meeting it was decided that the old engagement should be renewed, and that his lonely house should have what it long had needed—a mistress.—Catholic Standard and Times.

NEEDED IN THE FAMILY

It was a remarkably cool and pleasant room. A gentle breeze fluttered the white muslin curtains, and the roses on their tall bushes nodded across the window-sills at the caller. The caller smiled back at them and drew a long breath of the delicately perfumed air.

He was a young man who liked roses and green fields and the charm of the countryside. And he liked the restful quiet of the little sitting-room.

He arose quickly as a lady entered the room.

'Good morning, madam.'

'Good morning.'

She was a slender lady of perhaps sixty, a gray-haired lady of an old-fashioned type, a lady of much dignity of movement, and yet with a quick manner that at times suggested the sprightliness of a bird.

She pressed her gold-rimmed glasses a little closer to her nose and carefully surveyed the young man.

'I trust you are quite well, madam?'

'Quite well.'

She drew her thin lips together.

'If it's books,' she said, 'there isn't any use of your staying a minute longer.'

The caller smiled.

'I'm not a book agent,' he told her.

'Is it apple corers?'

'I'm not a pedlar.'

'I bought an apple corer of a young man who was something of your build most three years ago. It broke on the second greening. He was a mite stouter, perhaps.' She paused and again regarded him attentively. 'If you are neither a book agent nor an apple corer,' she said, 'you may take a chair.'

'Thank you, madam.'

He seated himself in the straight-backed chair she pointed out, and then the lady took the rocker, placing herself where she could study the young man's face.

'Is this a business call?'

'Yes, madam.'

He had been instructed how to meet the lady's advances. He was to remain strictly on the defensive and let her cross-examine at her leisure.

'Wait. It isn't lightning rods?'

'No, madam.'

'Nor windmills?'

He suddenly smiled, and there was no doubt his smile added to his agreeable appearance.

'That's a little nearer the truth, madam.'

She looked at him sharply, with her gray head on one side.

'What do you mean by that?'

'I only mean that I am a lawyer, madam.'

He was glad to see that she caught the point of the mild witticism at once. She even laughed softly.

'A lawyer?' she echoed. 'Then I scent trouble.'

'I assure you I am quite harmless, madam.'

She smiled a little grimly.

'Well,' she said, with a slight asperity, 'you have been here now quite a spell and haven't told me a word about the business that brought you here, and really nothing worth knowing about yourself.'

'Pardon me, madam,' he said; 'my name is Richard Barclay, and my home is in New York. I am in the law office of Renfrew, Keene, and Darnley, and will be admitted to a partnership in the firm the first of January.'

'There is nothing very startling about that,' said the lady. 'Perhaps in time you will get around to the business that brought you here.'

'Yes, madam. You have a niece.'

'Oh, it's my niece you want to see?'

'No, madam; my business is with you.'

'You are the strangest young man for beating around the bush I ever met. Why don't you say what you want and be done with it?'

'Madam, I want your permission to marry your niece.'

There was a little silence, during which the lady regarded the young man with a steady gaze.

'I knew,' she presently said, 'that I was taking great chances when Clare made that visit in New York with Louise Humphrey.'

The young man wisely waited, but the lady relapsed into silence.

'I haven't much to offer her,' he said; 'at least at present. I'm young and I'm making my way, and my chances seem good. I can give Clare a modest home in a nice neighborhood, a home in which there will always be room for you, dear madam.'

The lady slightly sniffed.

'You are getting ahead a little too fast, young man. I've no thought of moving just at present. Does Clare know about this—this delightful arrangement?'

'Yes, madam.'

'It's all settled, then?'

'No, madam. It all depends on you.'

Again the lady slightly sniffed.

'My niece was in New York just a month. During that month you contrived to persuade yourself that she was the only girl in all the world you could ever care for. Did you, or did you not?'

'I did, madam.'

'Seems nonsensical, doesn't it?'

'No, madam.'

She shook her head at him reprovingly.

'You look like a fairly sensible young man. Does my niece reciprocate this—this fanciful attachment?'

'Yes, madam.'

'And she sent you to me?'

'Yes, madam.'

'But why come to me if you are both agreed?'

'Clare owes you too much, madam, to do anything contrary to your approval.'

'Hoity-toity! And suppose I refuse?'

'We can wait, madam.'

'That's just what you should do. How silly this seems. You have met my niece twenty times, we'll say, and no doubt think her the one perfect flower of all girlhood. Do I use the right expression?'

'Yes, madam.'

She drew the gray shawl a little closer.

'Do you appreciate what you are asking of me?' she suddenly flamed out. 'What do we know about you?'

'Very little, madam. I can only tell you that I am clean and honest, and have a good profession.'

'That is what you say.' Then her eyes suddenly twinkled behind her glasses. 'I'll admit that I'm a little prejudiced in your favor, although you certainly are not as good-looking as Clare would have me believe. And I like your letters.'

'Did Clare show them to you?'

'How else could I have seen them? They were not nearly as slushy as might have been expected.'

'Thank you.'

'That one that told about the Italian child in the police-court was as good as a book. I'll admit that Clare and I both cried over it.' She paused and drew a long breath. 'It's very silly of me, I

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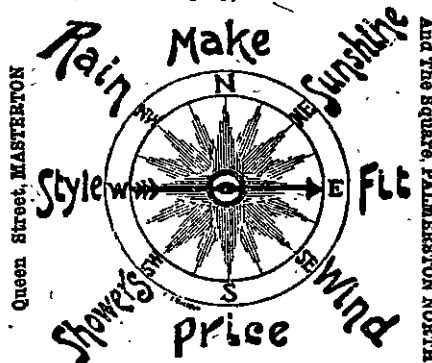
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know, but never having had any love affair of my own it is natural I should feel an extra interest in Clare's.

She took off her glasses and again wiped them with much care. He looked at her curiously.

'I begin to have a suspicion,' he said.

'Of what?'

'That you knew me all the time.'

The lady laughed softly.

'I wasn't particularly startled by your appearance.'

'And you didn't really take me for a book agent?'

'No.'

'Aunt Lucy,' said the young man, 'you certainly are a very clever woman.'

'Aunt Lucy! Hoity-toity! You are taking a good deal for granted, Richard Barclay. But, there, let's be frank and straightforward. I promise you nothing. You will stay and take dinner with us, and then we three will talk this all over. We are going to be perfectly independent on our side, you understand. We may be poor—or at least very far from rich—but we are proud. We come by it naturally. That's my father's picture up there, Jethro Holt. He was as proud as a lord.'

The young man looked up quickly.

'What did you call his name?'

'Jethro Holt.'

The young man's eyes sparkled.

'Jethro Holt, of Petunia, Me. Born there in 1815 died in 1863.'

'Why, yes. He was my father.'

The young man drew a narrow book from his pocket and rapidly leafed it over.

'Jethro Holt left three children, a boy and two girls, Arthur, Lucy, and Emily.'

'Yes. I am Lucy Mellen Holt—commonly called Aunt Lucy Mellen. At least that's what Clare has called me ever since she could talk. Emily was Clare's mother. She died when Clare was a baby, and Clare's father died the year after.'

The young man stared hard at her.

'Can you prove this relationship?'

'Why, yes, of course. I have the old family Bible and many letters and my father's picture and the deed of the old home.'

He drew a quick breath.

'This is wonderful,' he said. 'Tell me about your brother.'

'He was older than I—nine years older. He was a wayward boy, and greatly worried my father. When he was eighteen he ran away from home and shipped on a whaler. The ship was lost in the Pacific and all the crew were reported drowned.'

'Your brother escaped,' said the young man. 'He was picked up by a Russian sealer and landed at a Siberian port. He found his way to Australia, and roughed it as a sheep herder. There, through some mad fancy, he changed his name. He was no longer Arthur Holt; he was Henry Harlan. He became a trader and prospered; he prospered greatly. Finally he made his residence in New York. He lived there twenty years. He died there seven months ago.'

The lady, a strange look in her eyes, stirred suddenly.

'And that man was my brother?'

'Yes.'

She sighed. 'My poor brother.'

The young man leaned forward.

'Oh,' he said, 'we have searched for you in so many places! The head of our firm was your brother's attorney and one of the executors of the estate. The matter of finding the heirs was placed in my hands. I have travelled many miles on false clues. I have advertised in many sections—and now to stumble on you like this.'

'Then we are heirs to his property?' said the lady.

'He died without a will. You and Clare are his only living kin.'

'Does that mean we are rich?'

'Very, very rich.'

They were both silent for a moment or two. Then the lady sighed.

'That comes a little late for me,' she softly said, 'but it will be beautiful for Clare.'

A troubled look crossed the young man's face.

'Clare,' he murmured. 'This changes everything.'

'What do you mean?'

'Don't you see? Clare is now a great heiress. A new world opens before her. She can choose where she will.'

'True,' said the lady.

'It puts me in a painful, a false position. Why, even you might believe that I knew her relationship to Henry Harlan before I asked her to be my wife.'

'True,' said the lady again.

'Such a suspicion is shameful,' he went on. 'The one mainly thing for me to do is to release Clare from her promise.'

The lady arose and went to the window. It was plain that she was agitated by his startling news.

Presently she beckoned to him.

'Here,' she said. 'Do you see that young woman coming up the roadway? That is the great heiress. And she's something much better than that. She's a sweet and lovable girl, whose womanly heart can't be spoiled by any amount of money. I know her better than any other living person, Richard Barclay, and I tell you you have nothing to fear.' She turned and looked at him and laid a slender hand on his shoulder. 'Besides—' she began.

'Yes, dear lady.'

She softly laughed.

'It really looks as if we ought to have a lawyer in the family.—Exchange.'

Three Golden Balls and Santa Claus

It has been thought rather curious that the famous Medici family of Florence should have as their emblem three golden balls, which symbol has for hundreds of years been the pawnbroker's sign. The enemies of the Medicis were wont to laugh in their sleeves, and say that the pawnbroker's sign was very suitable, as the family had raised itself to prominence by usury and money-lending. The two emblems both came from the same legend, a very beautiful one of St. Nicholas of Bari.

A nobleman of the town of Patara had three beautiful daughters, whom, being bereft of all his fortune, he was unable to provide with a marriage portion. It seemed as if there was no honorable method to support them, and the poor father was in despair. St. Nicholas had heard of the family; and, as he had an enormous fortune, he resolved to dower the maidens, who were as good as they were beautiful.

Seeking their house one night, he found an open window, and threw into this a purse filled with gold. With this the oldest daughter was dowered; and a second purse coming in the same mysterious manner, gave the second daughter her marriage portion. The nobleman now determined to keep watch and see who was his benefactor, and discovered the saint in the act of throwing in the third purse. Falling upon his knees, the father exclaimed:

'O Nicholas, servant of God, why seek to hide thyself from gratitude?'

The good Bishop bade him tell no one while he lived, but after his demise the nobleman related his munificence. From this legend arose the custom of giving St. Nicholas three bits of gold or golden balls as his emblem. As he was the patron of the Medici, and also of the Lombard merchants who emigrated to England and there set up the first money-lending establishments and pawnbrokers' shops, so high and low use his emblem—the three golden balls.

From this same incident is said to be derived the custom of placing gifts in the stockings, or in some countries the shoes, of children on the eve of Christmas, and attributing the gifts to St. Nicholas under the corrupted form of his name, Santa Claus.—Ave Maria.

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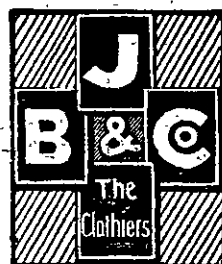
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Current Topics

The Holidays

It took a heavy toll in human life 'to make a Roman holiday' in the old pagan days of the gladiatorial show. Even in our time, the Fourth of July celebrations in the United States cause a mortality that easily outrivals that of one of the 'great' battles of the South African war. We in New Zealand do not take our holidays so sanguinarily. And yet (according to the press reports) the boat that is loaded, and the gun that is not, continue to be about as deadly as ever they were.

'Birreligion'

The new 'unsectarian' school religion manufactured by Mr. Birrell has been squeezed to death by the House of Lords. When it was first broached, it was greeted with the following skit in an English contemporary:—

'Let Irreligion hide its head
And Birreligion reign instead!
'Twas thus the Commons raised the cry;
Religion heard, and heaved a sigh.'

The strong opposition aroused in England by Mr. Birrell's Education Bill was a protest against the principle of forcing upon people a manufactured creed which was not acceptable to their religious convictions. It seems strange that the Imperial Parliament should try to deprive Christians in England of the denominational rights in education which it confers as a matter of course upon Hindus in India and upon Mahomedans in the Soudan. It looks as if the American 'pious editor' is not the only one who believes in freedom's cause—provided it be 'ez far away ez Payris' is.

Carnegie Libraries

Mr. Carnegie has been dropping free public libraries with generous promiscuity throughout the English-speaking world, from Thurso to Dunedin. A note of warning raised by us some years ago in regard to these benefactions has found an echo in a recent letter by Cardinal Logue. Such libraries (he says) might be made most useful institutions; but they may also become 'a very great danger if not kept under the strictest supervision'. They may easily (he adds) be made the medium for the distribution of anti-Christian, immoral, or doubtfully moral literature. And if such productions 'fall into the hands of ignorant or half-educated people, we should soon have conditions as to faith and morality which now exist in France, or perhaps nearer home.' In those libraries 'the great run', says the Cardinal, 'is on works of fiction which are neither educational nor improving, if not positively injurious and corrupting.'

This is also the general experience of towns in Australasia that possess circulating libraries. In February of the past year, the scholarly and cultivated vice-president of the Dunedin Athenaeum (Mr. Whitson) showed by actual returns that the habitues of that library (who are no exception to the general rule) indulge almost exclusively in fiction, and for the greater part in fiction that is mere mental hasheesh—the sort of thing that Samuel Smiles describes as 'intellectual dram-drinking, imparting a grateful excitement for the moment, without the slightest effect in improving or enriching the mind or building up character'. 'During four months', said Mr. Whitson, 'out of a total circulation of 22,716 books, 20,261 were novels'. 'And I am sorry to say', added he, 'that the quality of some books which are in very great demand is of the poorest.' The best writers of fiction are left in comparative neglect. So are works on science and 'belles lettres'. And, speaking generally, 'compared with fic-

tion, the circulation of books in other departments of literature is productive of sorrowful reflections.' The need of our time is not so much more readers as better readers. As matters stand, it seems that our public circulating libraries are more of a calamity than a blessing to the community. And, judging by the general experience, Carnegie's benefactions are very likely to be in part expended in packing library shelves with namby-pamby and sensational fifth-rate or tenth-rate fiction—with yellow-backed agonies brimful of intrigue, mystery, and blood.

Of the two kinds of romance that seem to be most in demand, Dr. Pryde says: 'If they are namby-pamby, reading them is like sipping jelly-water; if they are sensational, they are like Mrs. Squeers' posset of brimstone and treacle. In both cases they destroy the mental appetite and make it loathe all solid food'. The great mass of the novel-reading public are finical about their tea and beer and beef and tobacco. But they seem to have no standard by which to judge of the quality of the printed stuff on which they gorge. For many of them, novel-reading is not so much a recreation as a passion—something akin to the taste of toppers for fiery waters, and of Anglo-Indians for red-hot condiments. Mr. Carnegie would have enormously enhanced the value of his gifts, and gone far towards preventing their commonest and most obvious abuse, had he made some effective provision against converting the new libraries into distributing centres for rubbishy fiction—and little more. We have said full many a time that one of the pressing needs of our day is the cultivation of a conscience in regard to printed matter; and, after that, a 'professor of books', to guide our reading along paths that shall be safe and pleasant and profitable. Had Mr. Carnegie only thought of supplying the professorship of books—that is, skilled and judicious supervision in their choice—he would have done much towards supplying the other and primary need, that of gradually establishing an improved conscience in the matter of reading.

'Unblushing Mendacity'

Disraeli once said in the House of Commons, in the course of a speech on the Sugar Duties: 'Figures are not party men. You may cross the House, but you cannot convert 15,000 tons into 20,000.' All this is very true of honest figures honestly treated. But figure-facts are no more proof than are other facts against the ways and wiles of the fact-manipulator. And his treatment of them from time to time gives a point to the sarcastic degrees of comparison: lies, thumping lies, statistics. In our issue of September 20 of the past year we gave a detailed exposure of a series of 'doctored' statistics that were published by anonymous writers—acting apparently in concert—in several newspapers throughout New Zealand. The figures purported to have been taken from the Liverpool 'Catholic Times,' and their ostensible object was to 'demonstrate' the high criminality and general chuckle-headedness of adherents of the 'Romish' Church. The 'proof' was an assertion professing to show that, according to the Catholic organ mentioned above, the number of 'Papists' who passed through the Liverpool prison in 1884 was 'out of all proportion to the Roman Catholic population of that city'. And the 'argument' was clinched with the smug observation: 'By their fruits ye shall know them.'

Referring to our exposure of the 'faked' figures regarding the Liverpool prison, the 'Catholic Times' of November 16, 1906, says: 'Our New Zealand contemporary points out—what had not been stated—that Catholic prisoners are sent to Liverpool from St. Helens, Widnes, Southport, Waterlbo, Seaforth, Crosby, Ormskirk, Birkenhead, and Liscard, and Flint borough and County in Wales; that over fifty per cent. of the

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Catholic prisoners were committed for less than a fortnight (through inability to pay fines); that thirty-eight per cent. of them were imprisoned for but a week or less; and that only four per cent. of them had to serve sentences of three months or longer. The figures to which our contemporary refers were, of course, those circulated by the "Protestant Press Bureau" in its anti-Catholic campaign of which Mr. Edwin Charles, a pressman, wrote the other day that never in the course of twenty-five years' press experience has he seen the like of it for willful misrepresentation and unblushing mendacity. For ourselves, we came to the conclusion long since that the effusions of the "Protestant Press Bureau" are utterly unworthy of serious notice in our columns.

Mr. Vincent Crummies used to 'gag' in all sorts of plays in order to justify the introduction of the 'infant phenomenon'. And our readers may depend upon it that the cheap, street-corner order of controversialists will from time to time resort to the customary journalistic 'gag' for the purpose of introducing these 'faked' Liverpool statistics and drawing a shocked 'moral' from them to the disadvantage of the 'Romish' Church. In the circumstances, it is well to know that the 'authority' for those sham 'statistics' is not the 'Catholic Times', but the 'Protestant Press Bureau'. And if its other efforts are on a par with this, we can well understand why Mr. Edwin Charles scourged it so lustily for 'willful misrepresentation and unblushing mendacity.'

Referring to the fraudulent misstatements of their religious belief so frequently made by prisoners in this and other English-speaking countries, we said in our issue of September 20: 'Entries of the religious profession of prisoners are made for two purposes—with a view to spiritual ministrations, and for statistical information and comparison. For this latter purpose, accuracy becomes a matter of public right and of scientific and moral interest, and it should be secured by adequate precautions. Such affirmations as to religious profession should be taken as statutory declarations, in which false statements would be punishable as perjury. The details of this much-needed change could be readily worked out, and a few prosecutions for perjury would serve to convince even the criminal fraternity that, in this matter at least, truth-telling is the better policy.'

Mock Conciliation

Some time ago (as the cables sufficiently informed us) M. Clemenceau (the French Premier) and M. Briand (Minister of Worship) played the lion and roared far-resounding threats as to what would happen the Church in France on the fateful day (December 12) when the Separation Law would come into operation. But as the momentous date approached, they changed their note and, by comparison, roared 'as gently as any sucking dove'—as mildly 'an 'twere a nightingale'. The French Ministry was placed between the upper and the nether millstones. On the one side there lay the extreme probability of grave disturbances—amounting possibly to something like a state of insurrection—over wide districts of the country. On the other side, there were the raucous clatours of the Extreme Left, calling for a regime of swifter and more savage proscription against religion and those who practise it. 'In a situation of such delicacy,' says the London 'Tablet', 'a policy of bluster would be provocative and dangerous, and therefore the most elementary prudence—coupled with an anxiety for the safety of their own skin—suggested to the Government an attitude and tone of conciliation'. In the course of a long policy speech in the Chamber of Deputies a few weeks ago, M. Briand, with roundabout politeness, made it clear that the Government were not to be driven into the dangerous extremes favored by such men as Combes and Pelletan. He even spoke in tones of unaccustomed respect of the Pope and the Bishops. He dismissed

the Des Houx hoaxes—the 'Matin's' sham 'Catholic' associations of worship as 'caricatures'. He graciously announced that the refusal to form (uncanonical) associations of worship would not be regarded as an act of revolt against the law of the land. He stated furthermore that (contrary to previous intimations) the clergy would not be deprived of their civil rights as 'officials of a foreign power', and that the churches set aside for public worship would remain open to the clergy to minister in, and to the people to pray in, whether singly or in common. 'We will leave you the churches—on sufferance', said M. Briand to the clergy. 'Public worship will go on uninterruptedly. You can take advantage of the law regulating public meetings'.

A few weeks previously the Government had declared that 'sans l'association, culturelle, la célébration du culte devient légalement impossible'—apart from the (exclusively lay) associations for public worship, the celebration of worship would become impossible throughout France. It was likewise announced that the Government would legalise these associations whatever their religious beliefs or disbeliefs might be. And they so far acted upon this declaration as to hand over the legal ownership of the church property at Culey and Puymasson to 'caricature' associations which were openly and notoriously in schism and rebellion against the ecclesiastical authority. The Clemenceau Ministry now finds that it has bitten off a bigger chunk of persecution than it can well chew. The 'Bloc' is 'blocked' just when it was getting its forces together for the grand assault upon Christianity in France.

If this change of voice betokened a change of heart, it would be as welcome in the fervor of political feeling in France as the coming-up of the cool 'southerly buster' at the close of a sweltering day in Sydney. But in the Third Republic, policies and political parties are as shifting

'And variable as the shade

By the light quivering aspen made'.

The ministerial statement looks unmistakably like a ministerial weakening before the perils of a position from which even the Man of Blood and Iron might well recoil. Moreover, the new utterances of M. Clemenceau and his atheistic confreres must be read side by side with ministerial pronouncements made in moments of official candor. We cannot, for instance, afford to forget the boast of M. Clemenceau that he had scaled heaven and dethroned God. And M. Briand's soft phrases of a few weeks ago are not set in their full context till we place them side by side with the declaration of war which (with a collective 'we') he made against Christianity a short time beforehand at the Teachers' Congress at Amiens:—

'We must get rid of Christianity. . . . We have hunted Jesus Christ out of the schools, out of the university, out of the hospitals, the refuges, nay, even out of the gaols and the lunatic asylums. We must now hunt Him out of the Government of France.'

And on the very day previous to M. Briand's declaration of ministerial policy, his confrere, M. Viviani (Minister of Labor), made the following further brag-gart declaration of war on religion, which (be it noted) was placarded by the Government on the walls of every town-hall in France:—

'All of us together—first by our forefathers, then by our fathers, and now by ourselves—have been attached to the work of anti-clericalism and irreligion. We have snatched the human conscience from belief in the Beyond. Together, too, we have with one sweeping gesture quenched in heaven the lights that shall never be rekindled. Do you think that the work is at an end? No, it is but commencing. Do you think that it has no morrow? Lo, the morrow is dawning.'

French Catholics know very well by this time that they have no justice to expect from the Clemenceau Ministry, and only as much mercy as overruling circumstances may compel the Christ-hunters to show.

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THE CRISIS IN FRANCE

ARCHBISHOP KELLY ON THE SITUATION

* His Grace the Coadjutor-Archbishop of Sydney (Most Rev. Dr. Kelly) presided at the Christmas entertainment at St. Benedict's Girls' School, and dealt with the position of affairs in France. It is almost incredible (said his Grace) that the Catholics of France can no longer hear Mass on Sundays, except under police inspection and with a threat of legal penalties hanging over them, in view of the fact that they have been hearing Mass for 1600 years, except during the time of the French Revolution. The Mass is the same now as it was then. Why are they hindered? Here is the point: In the name of the law, regularly voted. That is what is claimed: When the law is against reason and the rights of God and of the Christian, however regularly that law may be voted, it is an unjust law, and I would not have it go here in Australia without a challenge. No Parliament is entitled to make what law it pleases irrespective of the rights of God and of the people. There is another cry, and I am afraid it is deceptive to many. 'Let the Church and the State be separated,' they say. We, Catholics, say the same. In so far as the proper sphere of the Church and of the State is concerned we say, 'Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and give to God what belongs to God.' But in France separation means suppression; it means as far as possible extinction. War is declared on God and on the liberty of conscience. And this is called separation. Lately I visited the gaol in Parramatta, and there are some people there who qualify their transgressions by saying they are relieving the necessities of the poor by delivering others from their burdens. Some, they say, were burdened with wealth, and these men are to be delivered from the burden of wealth; and the poor man who is in need let him go to his neighbor's purse at night and help himself. They give these names to the most malignant actions.

The Plot Against Catholicity.

I do not place any limit to the force of the suppression of religion in France, for I know according to my own limited opportunities that ever since the year 1850 there has been plotting, and plotting, especially in Belgium, France, and Italy against Catholicity in every shape and form. Some time ago the religious—like the nuns of the Sacred Heart at Rose Bay, or the Sisters—here at St. Benedict's, for example—had to leave. They were told:—'You are a religious, you must go; you are not to teach because you are a religious.' They said they would have the secular clergy to teach, and now they will not have the secular clergy. They are shutting the very churches and preventing people from assisting at the Holy Sacrifice and from carrying out any public functions whatever in the churches. All this is done under the plea of the separation between Church and State. In that sense.

This Policy will Work Ruin in France,

for, and we here in Australia should keep this in mind, Divine Providence recognising in every man a soul as well as a body, and a future in eternity as well as a career on earth, consults for man by two great institutions—and both belong to God—one is the State, which is providing for man's liberty, security and progress, the other is the Church, which teaches man his origin, his destiny, his duty, and helps man to lead a virtuous and happy life on earth that he may have happiness for all eternity when his life is no more. These two departments of Divine Providence—the Church and the State—are separate in their respective spheres. The State is for this life, and the Church is for this and the next life. This life is the beginning of things, and as a man lives here so will he find himself in the next world. That you may know and walk in the way there is a society instituted by Christ, which now has a history of 1900 years, and is known here in Australia and the universe over. And that Church works with every Government, whether it be republican, monarchical, or anything else. That Church renders to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, but it claims for God and the Christian the rights of God, and the rights of sanctification of our lives by religious worship. You can no more separate the Church and State in this sense than you can separate the soul from the body or time from eternity. I wish to state this for your benefit and for the benefit of those who wish to be instructed from our point of view.

The Irish Delegates

ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING IN WELLINGTON

SPEECH BY THE PREMIER

(By telegraph from our own correspondent.)

December 24.

Mr. Joseph Devlin, M.P., addressed a meeting of about 2000 people in the Town Hall, Wellington, on Friday evening, December 21. His reception was the most cordial and enthusiastic possible. A great deal was expected from him, and in spite of suffering from the strain of a vigorous campaign in Australia and in the south he more than fulfilled the most sanguine hopes. The general opinion here is that the address, judged by the standard of eloquence, was the grandest ever heard in this city, and one of the most convincing and solid. The 'New Zealand Times' describes it as 'an unanswerable argument in favor of full self-governing powers being conferred on the people of Ireland.' His Worship the Mayor presided, and among those present on the platform were the Premier, the Minister for Native Affairs, the Minister for Education, the Hon. John Rigg, M.L.C., Messrs. Field and Barber, M.H.R.s.; his Grace Archbishop Redwood, Very Rev. Father Lewis, V.G., Very Rev. Father Keogh (Rector of St. Patrick's College), Rev. Father O'Shea, Mr. John Hutcheson (a former Member for the city), Mr. W. T. Young (president of the Trades and Labor Council), Councillors Hindmarsh, McLaren, and Carmichael, Mr. Martin Kennedy (president of the United Irish League), and Mr. George Gibbons, of Melbourne. Apologies were received from Hon. James McGowan, Mr. Izard, M.H.R., Mr. Eugene O'Connor, and the Mayor of Petone.

The Mayor,

the Hon. T. Hislop, in introducing Mr. Devlin, referred to the history of the movement for self-government on the part of the colonies, and instanced the case of the Canadian rebellion. He was satisfied that from the experience of the past the ills foretold as likely to result from the granting of Home Rule to Ireland would not come to pass. He was convinced that if the subject were only pursued with persistence and good temper a solution was not far off. He had pleasure in presiding at such a meeting, and called on Mr. Martin Kennedy to move

THE FIRST RESOLUTION:

'That this meeting, in welcoming Mr. Devlin, pledges itself to give both moral and material support to the Irish Parliamentary Party under the efficient leadership of Mr. John E. Redmond in their magnificent efforts to secure the long-delayed measure of justice, self-government for Ireland, the granting of which we are convinced would result, as in Canada, Australia, and New Zealand, in strengthening and consolidating the British Empire.'

In moving the resolution Mr. Kennedy contrasted the progress of the colonies during the past fifty years with the decay of Ireland during the same period—a decay in her population, in her industries, her commerce, and her agricultural resources. He would not speak at further length to the motion, for they were there that night to hear one that was specially invited for the purpose.

Mr. John Hutcheson, speaking with much sincerity of feeling, said that he was proud of the honor conferred on him, the honor of seconding the resolution just moved. He was not an Irishman, he was a Scotchman, but he seconded the motion as a loyal citizen of New Zealand. They could not afford to overlook the misdeeds of the past. The grey dawn of Ireland's freedom was now breaking, and it was the time to settle details, as Canada and Australia had already declared in favor of Home Rule, and as New Zealand would soon declare. The Old Country, which had shown such criminal obduracy in the past, could no longer ignore the work of the self-governing colonies. There was coming a time, and soon, when in the process of political evolution an advisory body, a Council of Empire, would be an imperative necessity for the great aggregation of self-governing units called the British Empire. That body would have no time for parochial matters; the trend of thought would force on Home Rule not only for Ireland but for every other constituent part of the British Empire.

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The resolution was put by the Mayor and carried with extraordinary enthusiasm.

MR. DEVLIN'S SPEECH.

Then Mr. Devlin rose to speak. He is an animated personage in conversing. On the platform he is another person altogether. He is the personification of sincerity, and fairly teems with the cause he has at heart. It was this zeal and earnestness in the man that won him the sympathy of his great audience. This morning I spoke to a gentleman of great attainments. He is one whose sympathies are certainly not Irish, and he went to the meeting with his mind, if anything, against Home Rule. He came away powerfully impressed with the sincerity of the advocate, and described the address as something far surpassing anything of its kind ever heard in this country. This is the general opinion.

The speaker on rising received an ovation. He appealed to the instructive love of liberty in the breasts of his audience, and in this was the strength of his appeal. In dealing with the contention that Home Rule meant Rome Rule and in exposing the fallacy of such an argument he was particularly strong; the facts he adduced of Protestant members being returned by constituencies for the most part Catholic were convincing arguments, and the mixed audience were satisfied that the cry of Rome Rule was, to use the words of the advocate himself, a grey-haired calumny. Mr. Devlin expressed his deep and warm obligations to the meeting for the public spirit and devotion to the cause that inspired them to assemble there that night to lend their sympathy to Ireland struggling to be free, and he especially thanked the Premier for his courage and for his imperial political sagacity for lending the prestige of his high position and the force of his political wisdom to the adjustment of a great question, vital not only to Ireland but to the Empire, and all that made for its solidarity and its glory. He came not only as an Irish envoy, but as the representative of the

Most Powerful Democratic Party

that ever stood for social progress on the floor of the British House of Commons. The Irish Party had been instrumental in placing on the Statute Book some of the most beneficent measures for the toilers of the Old Land. He was there that night to plead for Home Rule, for an Ireland for the Irish, just as there was a New Zealand for the New Zealanders. He quoted from the Blue Books to show that the population of Ireland was fast ebbing away—that population which was the greatest asset of any nation. The most alarming feature of the tide of emigration was that 95 per cent. of the emigrants were from twelve to forty-five years of age. It was the young, the powerful, and the virile that were going from the shores of Erin. He reminded them of the fact 80,000 Irish peasants were compelled, by the conditions obtaining in the land, to live in hovels that were not to be compared to the dog kennels of the landlords. He then referred to the alarming increase of lunacy, cancer, and consumption, an increase proved to be due to the wretched conditions of life as the result of misgovernment. He next dealt with the question of taxation. Ireland with a population of nine millions contributed two millions to the Imperial Exchequer, while now, with a population half as large, she contributed ten millions. It was said Ireland was disloyal, and why? He had travelled throughout many parts of the Empire, and everywhere he found loyalty prevailed where there was self-government; surely the conclusion was that if Ireland were disloyal, and he did not admit the fact, it was because the right of self-government was denied her. Mr. Devlin next dealt with the sectarian cry of Rome Rule, and he quite exploded the old theory. His reference to the Protestant leaders of Ireland fairly brought down the house, and when he spoke of the pictures of Our Lady and the Protestant patriot, Robert Emmet, being hung side by side in the Irish homes he scored a point perhaps the most telling of his speech. His appeal for the preservation of the last remnants of a noble race fell on sympathetic ears, and then he closed his brilliant, powerful, and touching address with the firm hope that the next envoy to these shores would bring the message of Ireland's freedom. There would be waited across the seas a message as sweet as the tones of the Vesper bell summoning the people to prayer in the peaceful places in Ireland.

After an address lasting for an hour and thirty-five minutes Mr. Devlin resumed his seat amidst loud and prolonged applause.

Mr. P. J. O'Regan reminded those present that members of the Imperial Parliament received no emolu-

ments. They were supported by their followers. He was therefore to announce the collection. The Parliament of Great Britain, he continued, could not fail to grant to the Irish people what it had granted almost unasked to the South African Dutch. He then read a list of contributions already received totalling over £230.

The collectors then proceeded to canvass the assemblage, and a liberal response was made. It is expected that the total result will be somewhere between £400 and £500. Donations are still coming in.

OTHER SPEECHES.

The Premier said that although not one of the chosen speakers for that evening he was there as a New Zealand citizen to join in showing their appreciation of the great work being done by Mr. Devlin—the splendid Irish envoy, who had just charmed them all with his eloquent speech. For oratorical ability, descriptive power, and sympathetic appeal and force he felt he was right in saying that they had never heard a better speech in any part of this country. The reason they recognised that was because he spoke from his heart, and that he was voicing the sentiments not only of his own country but of many millions of people outside Ireland, who believed that the present system of ruling Ireland must be changed. We in New Zealand recognised that we were in a free land—a free people in the true sense of the word. We were impressed more than he could indicate with the fact that the solidarity of the Empire, the knitting together of every part of it was absolutely essential for its preservation from the attacks of dominant powers, which did not see eye to eye with England, Scotland, or Ireland. He desired to announce for the first time that the Government of New Zealand had just concluded a reciprocal treaty with the recently created self-governing colonies in South Africa. He moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Devlin. Apart altogether from the cause the speech was an intellectual treat.

Sir Joseph, who spoke splendidly, received great applause. The vote was carried amidst cheers.

His Grace Archbishop Redwood spoke to the motion in an eloquent and forceful speech that was punctuated with loud applause. He referred in appreciative terms to the earnestness and invincible arguments of Mr. Devlin's address. It seemed inconceivable that any man without prejudice could hear these arguments and not be a firm believer in the cause of Home Rule. Mr. Devlin was raising a great force of public opinion that must one day, and soon, carry Home Rule for Ireland. He believed, as he hoped, that the grand triumph was near at hand.

Mr. Devlin made a most feeling reply. He moved a vote of thanks to the Mayor, the Premier, and Archbishop Redwood for lending to the movement the prestige of their high position. He hoped that this free and beautiful land so prosperous to-day would have a continuance of its wonderful progress.

The singing of the National Anthem closed a meeting that may, without the slightest exaggeration, be described as the most enthusiastic ever held in this city.

Mr. Devlin left this morning for Rotorua.

MR. DONOVAN'S ARRIVAL.

Mr. Donovan, Mr. Devlin's colleague, leaves Hobart for the Bluff on January 4.

Mr. Devlin and the Hibernian Society

During his stay in Christchurch (writes our own correspondent) Mr. J. Devlin, M.P., was taken for a drive by the members of the St. Patrick's branch of the H.A.C.B. Society. The party accompanying Mr. Devlin were Rev. Father O'Connell (chaplain of the branch), Rev. Father Hyland (representing the Kaiapoi branch), Mr. Gibbons, of Melbourne, Bro. McVeigh (New Headford), Bro. Riordan (Leeston), Bros. Sellars, Dineen, and Doolan (president, vice-president, and secretary respectively of the St. Patrick's branch), Bros. P. Burke, R. O'Brien, T. O'Connell, sen., Evans, J. McCormick, E. Power, and O'Shea. The route taken was by the Exhibition, Fendalton and Riccarton, then on to Mount Magdala by way of Halswell.

While on the journey a halt was made for lunch, when Bro. Sellars proposed the health of Mr. Devlin, referring to his connection with the Society, the Home Rule cause, and concluded by wishing him a successful mission.

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Mr. Devlin in reply spoke of the good work being done by the Society both in Ireland and Australia, touched upon the work of the Irish Party and the prospects of Home Rule, and the good will and generosity of the Irishmen he had met in every land. He paid a high tribute to Bro. P. Burke (his host during his stay in Christchurch) for his kindness.

On arriving at Mount Magdala the visitors were met by the Very Rev. Dean Ginaty, and received at the convent by the Rev. Mother Superior and the Sisters. Over the entrance gate a floral arch had been erected, surmounted by the words, 'Cead mille failte.' After an inspection of the institution the party all adjourned to a large room where the inmates greeted the visitors with musical items. Here Mr. Devlin and party were formally welcomed by Very Rev. Dean Ginaty. Mr. Devlin thanked the Community for their kindly welcome, and congratulated them on the results of their good work. After partaking of the hospitality of the Community the party proceeded to the orphanage, where an entertainment was provided by the children. The manner in which the various items were given reflected the greatest credit on the painstaking Sisters and their pupils.

Mr. Devlin congratulated both teachers and children on the excellence of the entertainment.

On the trip to town a handsome sum was collected among the party for the benefit of the children's Christmas treat. Mr. Devlin expressed himself as delighted with the district visited, and said that words failed him to say all that he would like of the kindness of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, and of the admirable work they were engaged in.

Diocesan News

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

December 22.

The Rev. Father Goggin has so far received over £100 from the parish of Te Aro to aid the work of the Crusade of Rescue. On Sunday the collection at Thorndon realised over £50. The representatives are more than pleased with the result.

His Grace the Archbishop administered the Sacrament of Confirmation to a large number of candidates in St. Joseph's Church, Buckle street, on Sunday morning. The ceremony was notable for the many adult candidates, both male and female, for the most part converts to the Faith. His Grace, in a brief discourse, explained the nature and effects of the Sacrament. In the evening at St. Mary of the Angels' Church, Boulcott street, the ceremony of the renewal of the baptismal vows took place. An address to the children was delivered by the Rev. Father Kimbell in the presence of a crowded congregation.

Napier

(From our own correspondent.)

Our local Catholic schools have had their annual distribution of prizes. The results of the examinations have been most gratifying, and are proof positive that a good year's work was done.

An Auckland syndicate has made an offer to the Borough Council to supply the town with electric light and electric trams. The matter will be discussed at the next meeting of the Council.

Matters in connection with the coming visit of the Irish Delegates to Napier are moving apace. Small subscriptions are still coming in, and the secretary feels assured that Mr. Devlin will be presented with a cheque for at least £200 from Napier. Hastings will probably also subscribe a handsome sum to the cause.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

December 29.

Enormous crowds are pouring into the city; trains and steamers bringing their hundreds. The chief attraction is, of course, the great Exhibition which, owing to the holidays, is drawing its tens of thousands. It is estimated that there are very many more visitors here than during Carnival week, the accommodation being apparently 'laid low.'

Appropriate to Christmas a crib was as usual erected in the Cathedral. At the children's Mass, High Mass, and Vespers the 'Adeste Fideles' was beautifully sung.

The Very Rev. Father Clune, C.S.S.R., is conducting the annual retreat for the Sisters of the Missions, which commenced on last Wednesday at the Monastery of the Sacred Heart.

Missions by the Redemptorist Fathers will be opened at St. Agnes' Church, Halswell, and St. Anne's, Woolston, on Sunday, and on the following Wednesday at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Addington.

The Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chesnais, V.G., distributed the prizes in connection with the Cathedral parish-girls' school prior to the Christmas vacation. At the Halswell and Addington Catholic day schools the prizes were distributed by the Rev. Father Peoples.

The devoted Sisters of Nazareth, whose constant endeavor it is to brighten the lives of their charges, young and aged, generally contrive at Christmas to exceed their wonted hospitality, and thus add still more to the happiness of all. The present festive season proved no exception to this rule. A Christmas tree of holly had on its branches a gift for every one of the thirty-five little children, whose young hearts were cheered in a measure good to behold.

Speaking at the close of the mission on last Sunday the Very Rev. Father Clune expressed the exceeding gratification of himself and the other Fathers at the manner in which the services had been attended. That the mission had proved eminently successful was amply testified to by the great number of communicants. 'Hold steadfast to what you have gained,' were his parting words, repeated again and again in his concluding discourse.

Masses were celebrated at St. Mary's, Manchester street, on Christmas Day at 7 and 9.30 o'clock. Solemn High Mass at eleven o'clock was celebrated by the Rev. Father Hickson, the Rev. Father Gilbert being deacon, and Rev. Father Francis (Clune), C.P., subdeacon. The music by the choir, assisted by members of the Exhibition Orchestra, consisted of portions of Gounod's 'Messe Solennelle' and Von Weber's 'Mass.' The Rev. Father Hickson briefly addressed the congregation on the subject of the day's festival. There were Vespers and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the evening, the Rev. Father Hoare officiating.

On the eve of Christmas a few friends with kindly thoughtfulness provided a pleasing little entertainment for the inmates of Nazareth House. Most of the items were given by the talented Ralph family, now visiting this city. Mr. and Mrs. Ralph each gave pianoforte selections, Mr. Gerald Ralph (of the Exhibition Orchestra) contributed artistic violin solos, Mr. W. Ralph songs and recitations, and Miss Vera Barker some cleverly executed dances to the accompaniment of her sister, Miss Lottie Barker. The thanks of the inmates were gratefully expressed by two of their number, and also by one of the children for the exceedingly pleasant entertainment.

The three weeks' mission by the Redemptorist Fathers was brought to a close on last Sunday. A special Mass was celebrated at eight o'clock by the Very Rev. Father Clune, when a great body of men approached the Holy Table. Subsequently addressing the congregation, the Very Rev. Father said that such a sight as witnessed that morning was never before seen in this city. All the Catholic men's societies were fully represented, and he urged every man to become associated with one or other of them. In the evening there was a very large congregation. The Very Rev. Father Clune preached from the text, 'Be ye faithful until death,' and at the conclusion of a particularly fine discourse solemnly closed the mission with the Papal blessing.

At the Cathedral on Christmas morning Masses were celebrated at half-hour intervals from six o'clock until ten, each being well attended. There was a Solemn High Mass at eleven o'clock, the Rev. Father O'Connell being celebrant, the Very Rev. Father Clune deacon, and Rev. Father O'Dwyer subdeacon. The Very Rev. Vicar-General preached appropriate to the occasion, and extended heartfelt greetings to the congregation on behalf of the clergy. Turner's Mass of the Good Shepherd was sung by the choir. After Vespers in the evening the Rev. Father Lowham, C.S.S.R., preached an impressive discourse from the text, 'Fear not, for behold I bring you tidings of great joy.' Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament was given by the Rev. Father Claffey, S.J., attended by the Very Rev. Father Clune, C.S.S.R., and Rev. Father Francis (Clune), C.P. The sanctuary decorations were very effective, and the high altar a picture of loveliness.

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Rev. Mother M. St. Philomena, who went to England early in the year to attend the chapter of her Order, Notre Dame des Missions, and who for a long period was Mother Prioress of the Monastery of the Sacred Heart in this city, has been elected one of the three Assistant Mothers-General, and will remain at the Mother House, Deal, England, for at least three years.

As usual at Mount Magdala the festive season of Christmas was the occasion of much happiness for the numerous inmates, and nothing was left unthought of by the good Sisters which could possibly contribute towards this end. The children of their other institution, the Sacred Heart Orphanage, were also made merry and happy by a profusion of good things. A conspicuous feature of the day's festivities was the time-honored Christmas tree, from the well laden branches of which each one received a present.

MARIST BROTHERS' SCHOOL, WANGANUI

The Mayor presided at the annual distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Marist Brothers' School, Wanganui. In the course of his report on the year's work Brother Coleman said: Our school has been very successful, as may be seen by the result obtained in the Government Inspector's report, which was a very favorable one. Eighty-five pupils were examined, and all acquitted themselves with credit. Twelve boys were presented for the Sixth Standard, and eleven of these succeeded in passing, and securing certificates, which they received yesterday. Our school compares favorably with other schools in this district, and as an evidence that we are not behind schools elsewhere, I might mention that one of the pupils—John O'Connor—gained the scholarship to the Sacred Heart College, Auckland, which was open to all the Catholic boys' schools in the Colony. All the Marist Brothers' schools (eight in number) were represented in the competition, and I think that Wanganui should be proud that one of its boys should win three years' free tuition in one of the leading colleges in the country. The scholarship is valued at 105 guineas. The year before two of our pupils captured the St. Patrick's scholarships, and accepted them. With regard to the boys who have passed the Seventh Standard and left school, I am pleased to state that they have secured good positions, and I trust they will be sufficiently wise to pursue their studies and better their positions. The result of the night school work was satisfactory, inasmuch as two of the students obtained passes in section H of the Pharmacy examination held in October last. Our efforts in the art class have been handsomely rewarded by one of the pupils gaining first prize at the Flower Show for shading and second for drawing at the Agricultural Show, whilst others secured certificates of merit. In thus attending to the wants of the intellectual man, the physical side has not been forgotten, for the boys were able to hold more than their own in their football contests with the other schools, and the fact that there has been little or no sickness in the school clearly shows the effectiveness of their outdoor exercises. Last, but not least, we come to the main object of our work as teachers. I mean the religious training of our pupils. This has been attended to, but time alone will tell with what results.

PRIZE LIST.

Good Conduct Medal.—F. Crompton.

Christian Doctrine.—Senior division, J. Welsh.

Athletics Medal.—J. Cronin.

Standard VII.—Dux medal, John Welsh; arithmetic, John O'Connor; shorthand and bookkeeping, John Roche; French and Latin, Charles Cronin; algebra and geometry, Thomas Boyle; English medal, John Welsh.

Standard VI.—Dux of Primary Department, Kevin Crotty (this pupil wins the Caledonian Society's medal), second in general proficiency, Laurence Loftus; arithmetic, Michael Shale; freehand and geometrical drawing, Oswald Hobson; blackboard drawing, Edwin Perrett; geography and writing, Arthur Greener; reading, Gerald Mahoney; English and physiology, Kevin Crotty.

Standard V.—General proficiency, William Neylon; Christian doctrine, Ernest Stafford; English, John Richardson; arithmetic, William Neylon; reading, Thomas Crotty; geography, Horace Hunt; writing and drawing, Francis Briggs; regular attendance, Regan Kiely; geography, Jeremiah O'Leary.

Standard IV.—General proficiency, Joseph Quirk; English, John McCulloch; arithmetic, Kevin Mahoney; geography, James Richardson; reading, Joseph Quirk; writing and drawing, William Briggs; singing, George Cronin.

Standard III.—General proficiency, Owen Grogan; English, Charles Jensen; reading, Dominic Cronin; second for reading, Louis Burbush; arithmetic, Robert Hall; drawing, George Smithies; catechism, Cuthbert Corliss; geography, Celeston Neylon; spelling, Charles Lloyd; special for design, Owen Grogan.

Standard II.—English, Benie Kiely; reading, Edward Wood; arithmetic, George Corliss; drawing, Phil Corliss; writing, Roy Ahein; catechism, Thomas Bourke; spelling, Charles Greenet.

Standard I.—Reading, Peter Cronin; writing, Joseph Flynn; arithmetic, Walter Callaghan; catechism, Joseph Curran; spelling, Bernie McCarthy.

CONVENT SCHOOL, THAMES

The following children (says the 'Thames Star') received prizes for attendance at the Convent School which were presented by the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly: Alice Connolly, Nellie Dunbar, Katie McDonnell, Annie Buckley, Monica Quinn, Josephine Kenny, Wm. Buckley, John Fitzpatrick, Adolph Mangan.

Good conduct prizes presented by Mrs. J. Connolly and Mr. P. Montague; Monica Quinn, Philip Smith, Wm. Buckley, Leslie Sullivan, Wm. Sutcliffe.

Trinity College Certificates.—Practical (Intermediate division pass): Kathleen McLeod, Hazel Lowe. Junior division honors: Alberta Gribble, Annie Gibson. Junior division pass: Violet George, A. Stewart, Kathleen McCabe. Preparatory division: Marie Clendon, Margery Thorne, Cuthbert Gibson, Mary Moran.

Theoretical.—Intermediate division pass: A. Gibson. Junior division honors: Margaret Corbett. Preparatory division: Kathleen McCabe, Violet George, Lucy McCabe, Mary Moran, Elsie Rattray, Lena Sullivan.

PAEROA CONVENT SCHOOL

The convent school concert given on the evening of December 19 at the Choral Hall, Paeroa, was well attended and proved most enjoyable (says the 'Chinemuri Gazette'). The first part of the programme was opened by Misses Moriarty (piano and mandolin), who played 'Alice' in finished style. Recitations were given by Master Pennell, Misses Kate and Rita Crosby, the last-named having to respond to an imperative encore. Misses Thelma Conway and Minnie Fallon gave an Irish jig and 'Rose of Killarney' in excellent style, and were recalled. In the tableau, 'Erin,' Miss Mary Crosby took the principal part, and the setting under limelight won the hearty applause of the audience. Several choruses were rendered by the school children, which reflected great credit on the Sisters of St. Joseph, who were responsible for the excellent training they acquired. The same may be said of the dramas. Masters Grimstone and Clarkin and Miss M. Crosby provoked hearty laughter by their clever acting. 'Mrs. Brown's Luggage' and 'Gossips' were well caricatured by Misses Casey, Treanor, Clarkin, and Crosby. In the 'Old Bachelor,' Masters L. Grimstone, M. McGeehan, J. Clarkin, and J. Carthy acted splendidly. Songs were rendered by Marjory McCarthy, C. Brown, and G. Hatton, and two duets (piano) were admirably rendered by Eileen Moriarty and Ivy Lucas, and Willie and Mary Crosby.

At the close of the concert Dean Hackett came on to the stage and on behalf of the Sisters thanked all present for their attendance and the hearty way in which they applauded the children. The Sisters, he said, were doing a noble work in the parish, and deserved every help. The Dean regretted that he was unable to present each child with a prize that evening. At the beginning of the year he had promised a gold medal to the boy or girl who would obtain the highest number of marks at the Christian Doctrine examination. This prize he would now hand to the winner, but as there were three pupils of equal merit, viz., J. Clarkin, J. Fitzpatrick, and Gladys Hatton, it would have to be decided by lot. Three numbers were then placed in a box, and J. Clarkin having drawn the highest, was awarded the gold cross presented by the Dean. The Sisters gave a prize each to J. Fitzpatrick and Gladys Hatton. Mr. Gibson's gold cross for regular attendance was won by Katie Handley (206½ days). Dean Hackett's prize for good conduct was won by Austin Thrupp, and Mr. Gibson's by Muriel King. The Dean's prizes in the infant school for attendance were won by J. Thrupp and Katie Crosby. After the distribution of prizes, the senior and junior pupils came on the stage and sang the first verse of 'God Save the King' as a tribute to the present King of England. During the concert the accompaniments were played by Miss Barrett, who is deserving of highest praise.

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Special Prizes.—Good conduct, gold medal (gift of Mrs Mackin), Priscilla Weight; Christian doctrine, gold medal (gift of Ven. Archdeacon Devoy), Lizzie Madden; most popular girl (decided by the votes of her companions), Florrie Saunders; highest marks, silver medal (gift of Mr White), Katie Madden; needlework, Priscilla Weight; regular attendance, Margaret Gallagher.

Music.—Higher school division, Mabel Outtrim; intermediate division, Lena Sullivan.

Class Prizes.—Class I: Composition and grammar, Maureen Griffin; arithmetic and algebra, Katie Madden; history and geography, Maureen Griffin; drawing and writing, Katie Madden. Class II: Composition and grammar, Florrie Saunders; arithmetic and algebra, Beronica Flanagan; geography and history, Lizzie Madden; elocution, Beronica Flanagan; physiology, Beronica Flanagan; literature and authors, May Doherty; mental arithmetic and French, Lizzie Madden; mapping, Florrie Saunders; writing and drawing, May Doherty. Class III: Composition and grammar, Maud Kuchen; diligence, Margaret Gallagher; geography and history, Eileen M'Kittrick; reading and recitation, Irene Dowell; writing and drawing, Maud Kuchen; French and mapping, Eileen M'Kittrick. Class IV: Composition and grammar, Minnie Curran; arithmetic, Marie Doherty; dictation and spelling, Agnes Hastie; reading, Lena Sullivan; French, Jessie Weight.

—Junior Pupils.—

Special Prizes.—Good conduct, Gertrude Treadgold; music, Gertrude Treadgold; regular attendance, Stella Rod.

Class Prizes.—Class I: Arithmetic, Gertrude Treadgold; reading and spelling, Teresa Hyland; geography and history, Jessie Ward. Class II: Arithmetic and geography, Gracie Jarman; reading and recitation, Eileen Flanagan; drawing and brushwork, Frank Walker; arithmetic, Eileen Jarman; reading, Margaret Walshe; spelling and tables, Mary Ready; general improvement, Doris Sullivan. Class III: Christian doctrine, Cora Jarman; general proficiency, Cyril Porter; reading, Dorothy Haggart; spelling, Dorothy Curtis; general improvement, Dorothy Brown; writing and figures, Cora Jarman.

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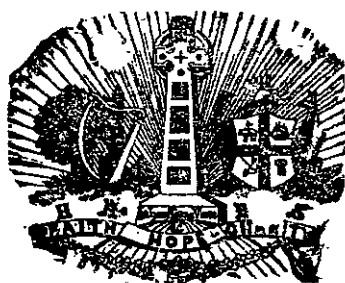
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New Publications

The A.C.T.S.—The latest batch of the publications of the Australian Catholic Truth Society (nos. 37 and 38) easily maintain the high standard of their predecessors. 'The Lost Child' is a touching and beautiful story, which has been well translated from the German. The Society and the Catholic reading public have been alike fortunate in the publication of the able and at times highly eloquent lectures of the Rev. Father O'Dwyer, S.J. The first of these is entitled, 'Religion and Human Liberty; Or, The Bible the Charter of Men's Rights'. It traces with a masterly touch the great moral revolution wrought in old paganism by Christianity, and disposes of the pretensions of rival claimants to the credit of the transformation. (Pp. 32, 1d each. A.C.T.S., St. Francis' Lodge, Melbourne, and of all Catholic booksellers).

We have before us two recent publications of the Rev. Father Hull, S.J., the brilliant and scholarly editor of the 'Examiner', Bombay. One of these is on Freemasonry. It deals with principles chiefly in the concise and luminous way that makes Father Hull's articles and pamphlets a joy for ever, and, for its compass, is easily the best thing on Freemasonry that we have yet come across. ('Examiner' Office, Bombay, India).—Another important brochure, of 100 pages, by the same author figures among the latest publications of the Catholic Truth Society (69 Southwark Bridge Road, London, S.E., 6d net). It is entitled 'Fortifying the Layman'. The able little work went with a rush into its second edition. It is an eminently thoughtful and practical effort to find a means for fortifying the layman against the influences that tend to undermine his faith in our day. We can do no better service to priest and layman than to recommend them warmly to 'take and read Father Hull's book.'

A pleasing tribute to the memory of a great Catholic statesman, Sir John S. D. Thompson, late Prime Minister of Canada, has appeared in the shape of a reprint of the noble funeral oration that was preached over his remains by the late Archbishop O'Brien in St. Mary's Cathedral, Halifax, on January 3, 1895. The neat little brochure is published by E. P. Meagher, Halifax, Canada. It is prefaced by Sir Lewis Morris's fine elegy to the memory of the deceased statesman, and an appendix contains the tributes paid to his memory by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and others 'in the Dominion Parliament in 1895. We join in the hope of the eloquent panegyrist that Canada may be the fruitful mother of many such sons as the late Right Honorable Sir John Thompson'.

Seumas MacManus gives us in 'Nabby Harren's Matchmaking', the latest of his series of sevenpenny Plays, a merry match-making comedy, in three acts, brought out by his usual publisher, D. O'Molloy, Mt. Charles, County Donegal. This play is a good sequel to the same author's 'Diunny O'Dowd' and 'Lad from Largymore'. While perhaps it is as droll as these last mentioned, it has more 'body' to it. It, naturally, does not aim at the pathos and the realism of his anti-emigration play, 'The Hard-hearted Man', nor of his newer and very successful 'Orange and Green', but it has a highly dramatic and laughter-moving climax.

From Louis Gille and Co. (73-75 Liverpool Street, Sydney) we have received a copy of a work that has met with a very cordial reception from the press in the Home countries. We refer to 'The Church and Kindness to Animals' (cloth, 200 pp. 8vo.; illustrated with full-page reproductions of famous paintings. 3s 6d). The book is faultless in type, paper, binding, etc., and is an interesting and timely treatment of an interesting theme. The attitude of the Church in regard to bull-fighting is set forth in a translation of the legisla-

tion of Pope St. Pius V. against 'the baiting of bulls and other beasts'. This is followed by the pastorals, etc., of the Bishops of Nîmes, Uzès, and Alais against bull-fights. Then follows a lengthy anthology of quaint animal stories and legends from the lives of the saints. The volume concludes with the testimony of 'a cloud of modern witnesses' (chiefly members of Zoophilic Societies) in regard to the work of the Church in discouraging cruelty to animals. We cordially recommend this work to Catholic households and parochial, school, convent, and college libraries.

In 'A Holiday Canter Round the Globe', Mr. R. Chisholm (Dunedin) gives us a chatty and interesting book of travel embracing Australia, Ceylon, Suez, Italy, France, England, Scotland, Canada, the United States, and the Hawaiian Islands. The book is packed with interesting travel-facts and with the views and comments of a keen, observant, and successful man of business. It is well printed and illustrated. (New Zealand Bible and Tract Society, Princes Street, Dunedin, 190 pp.).

Marie Narelle

Miss Marie Narelle opens her Dunedin season of three nights at His Majesty's Theatre on January 14, and a reception is to be tendered to her by our leading citizens and musicians.

An excerpt from 'The Bulletin' re her singing of the songs of Erin:—'Miss Narelle, in Irish ballads of pathos, has so piercing a sweetness and so deep-seated an appreciation of the sentiments she enunciates in song, that in the really sympathetic listener she causes mental disturbance. Many of her audience were in tears, and tears are sometimes more subtle flattery than praises. Whether warbling with expressive fidelity to the mood, a humorous love song of an Irish Boreen, or summoning with fiery ardor the forces of Tryconnet to the fury of the fray as in "O'Donnell Aboue," Miss Narelle expresses the soul and spirit of her song. Her four years' absence has ripened, so to speak, the rich vocal qualities of her soprano voice, which she uses with all the art and effectiveness of the experienced artiste. As a singer of the ballads beloved of the Celt, she has no compeer, and in this respect she received from her own folk in Sydney a splendid endorsement of the verdict already accorded her in other lands. Her reception by the large audience that filled the spacious hall was a triumph. It was for this time of triumph she had left home and country to face the trials of strange environment in search of recognition. For some time she was kept hovering her acknowledgments as the waves of applause surged through the hall. It was a reception well worth the journey round the world to experience. Miss Narelle could not fail to realise that Sydney's heart held a warm corner for her.'

A grass fire in the riverbed set fire to the long traffic bridge over the Rangitara River, seven miles above the railway bridge, and the superstructure is to a great extent destroyed. The Geraldine Fire Brigade put out the fire at the south end, but could not get to the north end, and Ashburton was requested to send its brigade. The damage is estimated at £7000.

We ('Thames Star') are always pleased to chronicle the success of a Thames pupil, and the splendid work of Miss Nellie Montague (eldest daughter of Mr. P. Montague, Pollen street) at St. Mary's Convent High School, Posenby, not only reflects the highest credit upon her application to study, but is a tribute to the efficiency of the instruction of the Sisters. In the musical examination Miss Montague secured honors under the Trinity College of London examinations, and received the handsome gold medal and chain presented by Mr. A. Myers, Mayor of Auckland. Miss Montague passed with conspicuous credit and her record is one of which she might well be proud. In painting and wood-carving also splendid work was done; in the latter especially Miss Montague has proved herself to be an apt and clever pupil.

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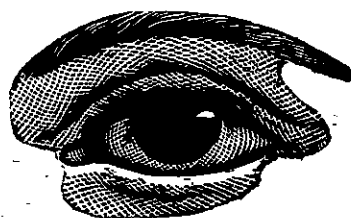
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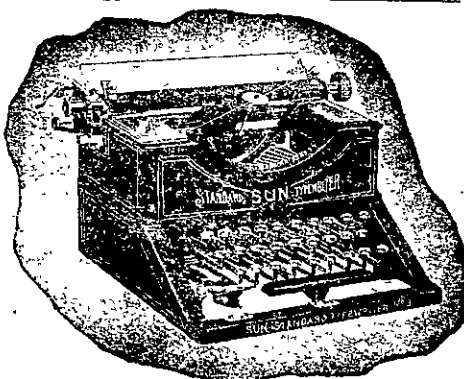
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WANGANUI

(From our own correspondent.)

December 28.

Mr. P. B. Lomax (a vice-president of the St. Mary's Catholic Club) represents the club at the Federated encampment of Catholic Societies, which is being held at Christchurch.

The Irish Rifles presented Lieutenant Holderness, who has held this position for the past three years and who is about to leave Wanganui for Hastings, with a walking stick and smoker's outfit.

The great boat race is over, Webb (the local man) defeating Stanbury (ex-champion of the world) easily. The latter was rowed to a standstill 500 yards from home, allowing Webb to win without exertion. It was the greatest event of its kind in the annals of New Zealand. It was rowed on the Kaiwhake reach of the Wanganui River, about 10 miles above the town.

Before the Marist Brothers left for their annual retreat at Auckland they took their pupils for a picnic up the Wanganui River. Almost all the boys took advantage of the outing, it being a glorious day; they all enjoyed themselves immensely, and before going home they wished the Brothers a merry Christmas and happy New Year.

The committee appointed to receive the Irish Home Rule delegate have made arrangements for the visit of Mr. Joseph Devlin, M.P., to Wanganui on Thursday, January 10. His Worship the Mayor (Mr. C. E. Mackey) has kindly consented to preside at the meeting, which will be held in the Opera House, Wanganui. Messrs. J. Hogan and Symes, M.H.R.'s will also be present.

Miss Marie Narelle, the 'Queen of Irish Song,' appeared at the Opera House last Thursday, December 20, when there was a large and appreciative audience present. She sang well-known Irish and Scottish melodies, and it is needless to say each of them was sung as only she can sing them. Not only did they appeal to the musical sensibilities of her hearers, but they went straight to their hearts, making one feel good all over, as one patron put it.

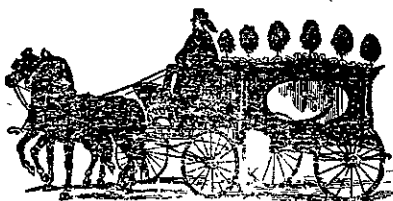
Mrs. Comyns desires to thank all the people of Wanganui and district who so generously gave her Christmas gifts (in all two large cases, and five small hampers) for the little inmates of Rev. Mother Mary Aubert's Home at Jerusalem. She says that for the last three years she has collected for the Home, but this year's collections have exceeded all. Thanks are

also due to Messrs. Hatherly, Alf. Smith, and A. Hatrick for their kindness in taking charge of parcels and conveying same to their destination.

Our Garrison Band, who intend going to Christchurch to compete in the band contest, must feel grateful at the result of their Christmas carolling. They started at 9.15 in the morning, ending shortly after 7 p.m. They toured Wanganui, meeting with universal hospitality and financial support. The result was highly satisfactory, £53 odd being received in collections during the day.

St. Mary's Church was as usual tastefully decorated for the feast of Christmas. Masses were celebrated at midnight, eight o'clock, and half-past ten. There was a very large number of communicants at the early Masses. Rev. Father Mahony preached at the first Mass on the feast of the day. The music at this Mass was 'Farmer's Mass,' which was rendered in a finished and devotional manner by the choir under the conductorship of Mr. H. Holden. Mrs. Thos. Lloyd presided at the organ. The choir was ably supported by an efficient orchestra. After the Mass the choir was entertained by Very Rev. Dean Grogan. In the evening Solemn Vespers were sung, followed by the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Large congregations filled the church at all the services. The Very Rev. Dean thanked the members of the choir and their friends for the very finished manner in which the music was rendered on Christmas Day.

Messrs. Dwan Brothers, hotel brokers, of Willis St., Wellington, report having made the following hotel sales:—Mr. Marshall Donnelly's interest in the Masonic Hotel, Cuba street, Wellington. Mrs. Moynihan's interest in the Cafe de Paris Hotel, Palmerston North. Mr. E. Fitzgerald's interest in the lease, goodwill, and furniture of the White Horse Hotel, Ngahauranga. Messrs. Bacovitch and Williamson's interest in the lease, goodwill, and furniture of the Club Hotel, Carterton. Messrs. Adams and Smith's interest in the Martinborough Hotel, Martinborough. Mr. H. C. Green's interest in the Criterion Hotel, Reefton. Mrs. M. Haylock's interest in the Victoria Hotel, Petone. Mr. J. A. Smythe's interest in the Masonic Hotel, Waitara. The lease, goodwill, and furniture of the Bellegrove Hotel, Nelson. Mr. Bergs's interest in the lease, goodwill, and furniture of the Post Office Hotel, Picton. Mr. William Pacey's interest in the Club Hotel, Fiji.



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The Extra Charges are: Washing, £1 10s a year, and Medicine and Medical Attendance if required.

Students will provide their own wearing apparel, including the Soutane, as well as Surplice for assistance in Choir.

The Annual Vacation ends on Saturday, the 17th of February.

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Donations towards the establishment of Bursaries for the Free Education of Ecclesiastical Students will be thankfully received.

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that FOURTEEN HOUSES will be OPEN FOR APPLICATION at this Office from MONDAY, 21st January, 1907, at 10 o'clock a.m., to TUESDAY, 22nd January, 1907, at 4 o'clock p.m., under the provisions of "The Workers' Dwellings Act, 1905," and Regulations. The Houses are situated at Windle, Borough of Mornington, and are within convenient distance of both Mornington and Roslyn trams. Each house contains five rooms, with up-to-date conveniences.

Applicants must appear personally at the meeting of the Land Board on THURSDAY, 24th January, 1907, at 7.30 o'clock p.m., to answer any questions that may be put.

THE BALLOT will be held at this Office on FRIDAY, 25th January, 1907, at 7.30 o'clock p.m.

Sale Plans and copies of the Regulations may be obtained at this Office, where designs of the houses may be seen.

D. BARRON,
Commissioner of Crown Lands

District Lands Office,
Dunedin, 20th December, 1906.

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DEATH

CUSACK.—At Invercargill, on December 24, 1906, Annie, dearly beloved wife of James Cusack, school teacher, Awarua Plains, Southland; aged 50 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 Justitie 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, JANUARY 3, 1907.

'UNION' FINANCE



ARTHUR Phelps will have it that the most fatal form of bigotry is that which is produced by reading only one side of a question. But there are two deeper depths to which unreasoned bias may reach. There is the prejudice which deliberately closes eyes and ears against disconcerting and inconvenient facts—bangs and bolts the door of the intellect against them as unwelcome visitors, as British scientists of the eighteenth century lowered portcullis and raised drawbridge for a long time against the results of French research. The other, and perhaps still more abysmal, form of prejudice is that which coerces too resistant facts—licking and shaping and altering them to suit preconceived views and theories. This is a reversal of the sound principle that theories must be made to suit the facts, not facts to suit the theories; and that when a fact comes into collision with a theory, it is as if a 'coo' came into collision with Stephenson's locomotive—sae much the waur for the theory. Scientists are aware that two light-waves may so 'interfere' as to produce complete darkness. And in an analogous way, a discussion, even when well-informed and luminous on both sides—often fails to leave the issue clear. Take, for instance, the case for and against bimetalism. But mere ignorance settles no dispute. And even the tight-shut eyes and the deprecativ Pooh-pooh of the rare New Zealand daily that is opposed to self-government in another part of the Empire, in no way affect the facts advanced by Mr. Devlin to sustain the charge of over-taxation of Ireland. The matter has long passed the stage of discussion. It was proved to overwhelming demonstration by the Reports (and especially the Final Report) of the Royal Commission on the Financial Relations between Great Britain and Ireland.

The provisions of the Act of Union required that Ireland should pay (1) the annual charge upon her debt contracted before the legislative Union, and (2) two-seventeenths of the joint expenditure of the United Kingdom. Unfortunately, when Pitt, Castlereagh, and their conferees determined the financial terms of the Act of Union, they did so, not on the basis of the normal years 1790-1794, but on the basis of the abnormal period, 1799-1800. 'They assumed,' says Lough, 'that Ireland could continue to pay the amount she had then paid. This was the fatal error against which both countries have been struggling ever since.' The last farthing of the amounts mentioned above was charged year by year. But the taxes could not pro-

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duce it—falling short by about £400,000 in each of the years 1801 and 1802, and (despite doubled duties on spirits, malt, teas, and tobacco) by much larger sums in 1804 and 1811. The limits of the country's taxable capacity had been plainly passed. Here is the result as stated in the able work on the Financial Relations by Mr. Lough, M.P. :—

'Only the sums which have been set out were actually collected, the balance being added to the pre-Union debt. In the seventeen years (to 1817) 'the total amount required for her separate charges and her share of the joint expenditure was, roundly, a hundred and sixty-two millions. Of this sum she paid about half, and the other moiety was added to her debt, which amounted at the close of the period altogether to about a hundred and thirteen millions.' At the commencement, the debt of Ireland was to the debt of Great Britain as one is to fifteen and a half. The amounts added to each during the seventeen years were as one is to six and a half; and the increase was 294 per cent. in the Irish debt, while it was only 65 per cent. in the debt of Great Britain.'

In the period under consideration (1801-1817) Ireland's debt arose from a ratio of one to fifteen and a half to a ratio of two to seventeen to the debt of Great Britain. Then it pleased the Westminster Parliament to withdraw the modest financial 'protection' that the Act of Union had given to the poorer country. Fiscal distinctions between the two nations were abolished; by some strange freak of Looking-Glass Land reasoning, it was decided that the disproportionate increase in Ireland's debt had made her all the more fit to bear the burden of equal taxation with her richer neighbor; and the last state of the home of the western Celt became worse than the first.

Between 1820 and 1850 Imperial taxation in England was reduced by one-third (from £3 10s to £2 7s 8d per head). In Ireland it remained practically the same (14s 5d per head in 1820 and 13s 11 in 1850). Between 1841 and 1851, famine, pestilence, and wholesale evictions reduced the population of the country by 1,622,739 souls—despite the natural increase that took place during that terrible decade of concentrated woe. The 'Statist' (the leading English financial paper) points out in the course of a recent article that the repeal of the Corn Laws at the beginning of the great famine smote the Irish farmers terribly, converted vast areas of cultivated land into pasturage, turned adrift 'immense numbers of laborers,' and sent them thronging into the city slums or hurrying across the seas to America or the British colonies. And he it noted that in Ireland 'the sufferings of agriculture' (as the 'Statist' remarks) were not, as in the richer country, England, 'made up for by the increased prosperity of manufactures, industry, and trade'; for 'in Ireland there were practically no manufactures and very little trade.' Yet this period of ruin, of 'complete economic and social revolution' (as the 'Statist' calls it) was chosen by the Westminster Parliament for the imposition of fresh fiscal burdens upon a broken and impoverished country. In the famine years the starving and pest-stricken people were 'relieved' by loans amounting to four and a half millions sterling. Repayment of the loan (with interest) began forthwith—while the hinged coffins were still at their ghastly work. When the repayment of the famine loans had been in good part effected, the balance was, as an act of grace, 'remitted'—in consideration of the new taxation that had been imposed and was to be imposed upon the unhappy country, already bled white, and exhausted by the death agony of Forty-six and of Black Forty-seven. It was a shrewd bargain, as the following extract from Lough's work amply shows: 'The taxes imposed between 1853 and 1860 have produced at least three millions a year for forty years. This sum capitalised would amount to well over two hundred millions. And this is the price that Ireland has paid for the trivial relief of four and a half millions in 1846-7.'

The Financial Relations Committee declared 'that the Act of Union imposed upon Ireland a burden which as events showed, she was unable to bear'; that 'the relative taxable capacity of Ireland' 'is not estimated by any of us as exceeding one-twentieth of that of England'—as against the Imperial charge of two-seventeenth extending over a century; 'that the increase of taxation laid upon Ireland between 1853 and 1860 was not justified by the then existing circumstance'; and that it added an 'unfair burden of about two and a quarter million per annum to the already undue drain upon the poorer country's resources. During the past century the Briton has had his Imperial taxation halved; the Irishman has had his doubled—while in about fifty years the population that has to meet these increased exactions has decreased by fifty per cent. The drain still goes drearily on, and the burden still grows heavier. And all this, let it be borne in mind, is independent of the colossal folly and extravagance of the services inside Ireland—the 'Castle' with its forty departments, the military police, the judiciary and the horde of useless and high-salaried placemen that are fastened like vampires upon the veins of the country. 'When everything is said, the fact remains', says the 'Statist', 'that the decay of Ireland during the past sixty-five years is mainly the result of the policy of England—a policy adopted not, of course, to injure Ireland, but to benefit England; still a policy which incidentally has had the result of, in the first place, destroying the one great Irish industry, and, in the second place, of burdening Ireland with a taxation altogether out of proportion to her resources'.

Notes

Thanks!

Our grateful acknowledgments to the numerous friends and well-wishers who have done us the honor of sending their kindly greetings to us for the Christ-Child day and the new year!

Not so Distant

The 'Revue Hebdomadaire' has been taking a glance at the past through the medium of a calculation that has an effect analogous to that which a telescope produces upon the bodily vision. This is how the 'Ave Maria' translates the French review: 'We imagine that the number of generations since the time of our Lord is enormous. Yet it is not. An individual twenty years of age at the date of the Birth of Christ could have been an eye-witness of the great events of His life. Supposing this individual to have lived more than four score years, and at eighty (the year 60 A.D.) to have transmitted the tradition to another person twenty years old; that, moreover, this second person did the same to a third, and soon down to the present day, thirty-two generations only would be needed to bridge the time between our Saviour and us. Similarly, only seven generations separate us from the date of America's discovery by Columbus. Finally, accepting the chronology that puts the Birth of Christ in the year 5498 of the creation of the world, one hundred and twenty-three generations would carry us back to the time of Adam and Eve; that is, one hundred and twenty-three separate lives would suffice to hand down the traditions of the Garden of Eden.'

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

December 28.

The Masses and evening devotions on Christmas Day were largely attended, and numbers approached the Holy Table. A special feature at St. Mary of the Angels' Church was the congregational singing of the Christmas carols.

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The St. Vincent de Paul Society recently formed here is making splendid progress, and the members are showing great enthusiasm.

The bazaar which was to have been held at St. Patrick's College during the holidays in aid of the newly-formed parish at Day's Bay has been postponed till next Easter, when it will be held in the Skating Rink.

In connection with the recent changes in the organisation of the Defence Department it is pleasing to observe that Colonel Robert J. Collins has been appointed finance member of the Defence Council, and Mr. James O'Sullivan Director of Stores. The latter gentleman has been Defence Storekeeper since the death of Captain Anderson some few years ago, and had a particularly busy and trying time in connection with the despatch of the contingents to South Africa. The abilities as an organiser he then displayed have won him his present recognition. Both gentlemen are to be congratulated on the promotion so deservedly conferred.

Boxing Day was rather a windy one for picnics, yet it is estimated that over 2000 adults and 1500 children attended the outing in the Koro-koro Gardens, Petone. The spot chosen was well suited for the purpose, and the arrangements, carried out by an energetic committee, left nothing to be desired. Special care was taken to give the little ones an enjoyable time, and a special sports' programme was provided for them. The wrestling and tug-of-war events occasioned considerable interest. In the latter event only two teams competed, one from Te Aro parish and one from Newtown. The contest was very exciting, the first pull going in favor of Te Aro. The second pull was a keen fight, and one of the best yet witnessed. It ended as did the third in favor of Newtown. The challenge cup will thus be held for the coming year by Newtown. The committee are to be commended for the manner in which the picnic arrangements were conducted. The secretarial duties were as usual discharged by Mr. John Hyland.

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

We understand that Mr. Donovan, Mr. Devlin's colleague, will address a meeting at Milton on January 8 and in Lawrence on the following day.

The annual retreat of the clergy of the diocese will begin on Monday, February 4. It will be conducted by the Very Rev. Father O'Farrell, C.S.S.R. The diocesan synod will be held at its close, on Friday, February 8.

Rev. Father O'Dwyer, S.J., is conducting a retreat at the Convent of Mercy, South Dunedin. At its close he proceeds to Timaru, where he takes charge of the ladies' retreat at the Sacred Heart Convent, beginning on January 9.

On the afternoon of Sunday week the Rev. Father Corcoran attended at the Sunday school, Mornington, which is conducted by Miss D. Purton, and distributed a number of prizes to the children. Upwards of sixty children attend the school, and Father Corcoran at the conclusion of the proceedings spoke very highly of the good work done during the year by Miss Purton and her assistants, Misses Power, Plunkett, and Stevenson. Father Corcoran complimented the children on their regular attendance, and wished them a merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Father Corcoran also thanked Mr. Plunkett for his kindness in giving the use of rooms for the purpose of the school.

Pontifical High Mass was celebrated at St. Joseph's Cathedral at 11 o'clock on Christmas Day by his Lordship the Bishop, Rev. Father Cleary being assistant priest, Rev. Father Corcoran deacon, Rev. Father O'Dwyer subdeacon, Rev. Father Coffey master of ceremonies. The occasional sermon was preached by the Bishop. The choir, under the conductorship of Mr. O. Feil, with Mr. A. Vallis at the organ, sang Gounod's No. 3 Mass—a composition never heard here before. As an offertory the choir sang the 'Adeste Fideles.' The outgoing march, Guilmant's 'Fantasia on Christmas Themes,' was played by Mr. A. Vallis. At Vespers the preacher was the Rev. Father O'Dwyer, S.J.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

December 29.

The approximate number of members of the affiliated Catholic clubs in New Zealand to the Federation was given by Mr. T. Adams at the social as 1500.

Speaking at the Catholic Club's social the Rev. Father O'Connell said that up to the present fifty priests for the various Marist missions had been ordained from the Meanecc ecclesiastical seminary.

Owing to his removal to Wellington Mr. C. Laferty has resigned from the presidency of the Christchurch Catholic Club. Mr. W. Hoban, the well known solicitor, has accepted the appointment to the position, and with his ability and wide experience should make an admirable leader.

We desire, said Mr. A. H. Casey, vice president of the Catholic Clubs' Federation, at the social, that the 'N.Z. Tablet' should be found in every club room and every Catholic home in the land—sentiments which were evidently universally shared in judging by the applause they met with.

An inter-club debate between representatives of Wellington and Christchurch Catholic Clubs was entered into on Christmas evening in the rooms of the latter. The subject, the rights and wrongs of the totalisator, was very keenly contested, with the result that Christchurch was awarded the victory on points gained. Mr. A. H. Casey, vice-president of the Federation, presided, and there was an attendance of about 130, including ladies. Messrs. D. Edmonds, R. McNamara, and J. R. Hayward spoke for Christchurch, and Messrs. C. Gamble, M. Kane, and S. Moran for Wellington. Messrs. Reichel (Wellington) and Dennehy (Christchurch) acted as judges.

A 'camp' in connection with the Federated Catholic Young Men's Societies of New Zealand has been formed in this city, consisting of ten tents and a marquee, and is situated on the Cathedral grounds. All the local arrangements were made by the Catholic Club members here, and up to the present about fifty visitors from all parts of the Colony have availed themselves of the excellent plan adopted for their accommodation, comfort, and sight-seeing facilities. The main object in view is to provide a common meeting place for visiting members of the Federation to view the Exhibition, to become acquainted with one another, and to more fully enjoy their holiday here. To accomplish this result nothing has been left undone. Members commenced to arrive on Christmas eve, and on Christmas morning the camp was formally opened. Breakfast is supplied each morning by a city caterer, and afterwards during the day the campers furnish their individual resources. Mr. A. H. Casey, vice-president of the Federation, is in charge, and the president, Mr. Leydon, is expected to arrive at the New Year.

On Thursday evening a 'smoke social' was tendered by the Christchurch Catholic Club to the visitors. Mr. W. Hoban (president) presided at a gathering of over a hundred. The clergy were represented by the Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chénais, V.G., and Rev. Father O'Connell. The function, a most enjoyable one, was held in the Catholic Club rooms, nicely decorated for the occasion. An excellent supper was provided and a lengthy toast-list honored. The health of the clergy was proposed by Mr. J. R. Hayward and responded to by the Very Rev. Father Le Menant des Chénais and Father O'Connell. 'The Visitors' was responded to by Messrs. Casey (Wellington), Deehan (Dunedin), O'Connell (Ternuka), M. Daly (Hokitika), Duffy (Greymouth), Hogan (Wanganui), Hooker (Hawera), and Simms (Waimate). 'The Federated Societies' was proposed by Mr. T. Adams and responded to by Mr. A. H. Casey and Mr. H. McKeown, and 'The Christchurch Catholic Club,' proposed by Mr. Reichel, was responded to by Mr. D. Edmonds and the secretary of the club. 'Kindred Societies' was proposed by Mr. D. O'Connell and responded to by representatives of the Hibernians and St. Vincent de Paul Societies. Interspersed with the toasts, songs were contributed by Messrs. Hogger, Beveridge, C. Goggin, R. Petersen, and W. Hallin; Mr. Deehan played a flute solo, and Mr. H. McKeown and Mr. R. McNamara recited.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(From our own correspondent.)

December 26.

The Masses in the churches yesterday were well attended. At St. Patrick's the first Mass was at six o'clock, and Masses were offered up every half hour until 10 o'clock. At 11 o'clock High Mass was celebrated by the Rev. Father Holbrook, Rev. Father Farthing being deacon, Rev. Father Murphy sub-deacon. His Lordship the Bishop was present in the sanctuary, and after the first Gospel addressed the congregation on the day's festival. While congregations, he said, had assembled within these walls in years past, to commemorate the feast of Nativity, others would follow in a like manner, still the celebration would go on. That it could never fade in the memories of the faithful was but the sure sign of its divine origin. After the Mass, the Rev. Father Molloy, on behalf of the priests and the choir,

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presented, in the schoolroom, to the musical director, Mr. A. B. Reynolds; a very nice silver urn, suitably inscribed.

At St. Benedict's Masses were celebrated from 6.30 o'clock to 11 a.m., by the Rev. Father Gillan, V.G., and Rev. Fathers Duffy and McMillan. Large congregations were present.

At the Sacred Heart Church, Ponsonby, Masses were celebrated by the Rev. Fathers Molloy, Williams, and Hills, S.M., of Wellington. At the 10 o'clock Mass the choir rendered Haydn's Imperial Mass.

His Lordship the Bishop, when addressing the congregation in St. Patrick's on Christmas Day, said that before Mass a little boy had waited on him, and handed to him his little box, which contained his gathering of pennies during the year, amounting to £1. The little fellow gave it towards the new Cathedral building fund. The Bishop earnestly hoped that this good little boy's example would be widely followed. He appealed to them all not to forget, in their own happiness and prosperity, those who were less happy and prosperous. He thanked the priests of the parish, the choir, and all those who during the year had contributed to the work of the Cathedral. Next year they would be assembled in their new and enlarged Cathedral. In conclusion, his Lordship asked them to assist him in the task he had undertaken. The choir, under Mr. P. F. Hiscocks, sang Millard's Mass in finished style. Mr H. Hiscocks presided at the organ. In the evening the church was again full. Rev Father Holbrook delivered a fine sermon on the Incarnation. Benediction was given by the Rev. Father Furlong.

A very pleasant gathering took place in St. Benedict's Hall last Thursday evening, the occasion being the presentation of an illuminated address to Father Gillan from the members of St. Benedict's Church committee, this being the eighth anniversary of his appointment to the charge of the parish. Among those present were the Rev. Fathers Mahoney, McMillan, Duffy, Kehoe, Buckley, Holbrook, Williams, Molloy, Farthing, Hills, and Murphy. The Bishop, Dr. Lenihan, who presided, made the presentation on behalf of the committee, and he took this opportunity of publicly announcing the appointment of Father Gillan to the position of Vicar-General. Father Gillan thanked Bishop Lenihan for the honor bestowed on him by his election, to the rank of Vicar-General. To his committee he was deeply indebted for the very able manner in which they had assisted him to reduce the parish debts, and for their beautiful address, which was accompanied by a photo shield of the church committee. Fathers Mahoney and Holbrook made eulogistic speeches. A capital supper was provided by the ladies of the parish, and musical items were contributed by Mrs. Schallum, Miss Foley, and Messrs. Lamb, Lonergan and O'Connell. The health of the clergy (which was proposed by Mr. O'Meara, and replied to by his Lordship), brought a very pleasant function to a close.

Mr. Joseph Devlin, M.P. for West Belfast, somewhat suddenly and unexpectedly arrived in Auckland last Sunday, via the West Coast from Wellington. Word of his coming reached here on Saturday at one p.m. Hurred arrangements were made, and the Hon. J. A. Tole, Messrs. W. J. Speight, P. J. Nerheny, and M. J. Sheahan met him at Onehunga on his arrival by the 'Takapuna.' The deputation heartily welcomed the young Irish member, and learned from him that, acting on medical advice, he had reluctantly to tear himself away from the hospitality of Mr. Martin Kennedy, of Wellington, with whom he had promised to stay a few days, and seclude himself, so as to rest his throat. With this in view, he went on to Rotorua on the following Monday morning. He returns to Auckland on January 5, and stays with Dr. Lenihan until the 7th, when he leaves for New Plymouth, speaking there on the 8th. He will speak at several towns in the North Island, including Napier and Gisborne, whence he returns here on the 15th. He will speak in this city on either the 30th or 31st, and leave for San Francisco on February 1. He speaks glowingly of his southern tour, and is particularly enamored of Timaru and its patriotic citizens. He said he would not forget that town and its people.

In the early part of last week, the Old Boys' Club welcomed to Auckland Bros. John and Stratonique, Assistant-Generals of the Order of the Marist Brothers. His Lordship the Bishop, a number of priests, and the Marist Brothers attended. The Bishop, in felicitous terms, heartily welcomed the distinguished guest. Mr. Furlong, on behalf of the Club, also welcomed them. Bro. John replied, thanked the Bishop and the Club for the hearty reception accorded to them. He was pleased with the Club and its good work, and hoped it would continue to advance and prosper. On Friday

evening last the Club gave a banquet in honor of their much-esteemed president, Rev. Bro. George. The Bishop again presided, and spoke in eulogistic terms of Brother George and the great work he carried on in Auckland. He was about to be granted a holiday to visit his parents in Victoria, whom he had not seen for 15 years. He hoped that he would enjoy his well-earned holiday, and that he would be back again in Auckland with us, though he had heard his superior contemplated a change for him in accordance with their own rules. Mr. J. Furlong, on behalf of the Club, then handed Brother George a nice travelling bag, and said all the members would ever think of him with gratitude and keen affection for the lasting and good work done by him for the young men of Auckland, and to which the existence and prosperity of the Old Boys' Club bore ample testimony. Bro. George thanked the Bishop and the members of the Club for their kind expressions of goodwill towards him. What had been done was in a great measure to be attributed to others, not to himself. He would always remember them and the pleasant times he had spent with them. For the useful present he felt deeply grateful. He urged them not to lag in their efforts to make the Club the success it deserved to be. Several toasts were given during the evening, notably 'His Holiness the Pope and the King,' by the Bishop. Musical items were given by the members and the Rev. Father Hills, and a most pleasant evening was spent.

GREYMOUTH

(From our own correspondent.)

December 27.

The billiard tournament, in connection with the Catholic Club was concluded last week and resulted as follows:—Mr. W. Hassall, 1; Mr. W. Donovan, 2; Mr. Claud Simon 3. Forty-five members took part in the tournament.

Midnight Mass was celebrated at St. Patrick's on Christmas Eve by the Very Rev. Dean Carew. Hammerel's Mass (with the exception of the Credo which was from Weber's composition) was sung. Miss Kemple played the organ accompaniments very creditably. The conductor, Mr. R. Phillips, deserves great praise for the finished manner in which the music was rendered.

A very pleasing ceremony took place at the St. Columba Club rooms last Wednesday evening, when the members assembled to say good-bye to Mr. Claud Simon, who is leaving Greymouth to take up his residence in Westport. Mr. Wm. Duffy (vice-president), in presenting Mr. Simon with a handsome Gladstone bag suitably inscribed, referred to the loss sustained by the club by the departure of Mr. Simon, who was one of its most valued members, and concluded by wishing him every success in his new home. Mr. Simon thanked the members for their useful present, which would always remind him of the happy days spent in the club rooms. Mr. Simon was also the recipient of a handsome watch guard from his fellow employees in the Greymouth Foundry.

WEDDING BELLS

CANAVAN—FAIRBROTHER.

At St. Mary's Church, Manchester street, on Monday, December 17, the marriage of Mr. John J. Canavan, of Christchurch, and Miss T. Fairbrother, of St. Albans, and late of Melbourne, was solemnised by the Rev. Father Hickson, S.M. (writes our Christchurch correspondent). The bride was attended by her sister as bridesmaid, and Mr. J. Quinlan, of Wellington, was groomsmen. After the ceremony an adjournment was made to Broadways Tea Rooms for the wedding breakfast. The health of the newly wedded couple was proposed by the Rev. Father Hickson, and in the afternoon they left for Akaroa, where the honeymoon is being spent.

The spectacle of one of New Zealand's justices of the peace wheeling a barrow opposite Taihape's Temple of Justice is creating considerable merriment in the minds of passers-by (says the local 'News'). From 'early morn' till 'dewy eve' this doughty capitalist is to be seen wheeling his barrow and shovelling like an ordinary navvy. Recently his presence was required to adjudicate in a case of obscene language, and, wiping the beads of perspiration from his forehead, he donned his coat, and in a few seconds was translated from navvy to a presiding justice. At the close of the case he made for the scene of his labor, and doffing his coat, resumed wheeling operations.

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Irish News

ANTRIM—Church Extension in Belfast

The sum of £800 was subscribed at a meeting of the Catholics of Ballyhackamore, Belfast, held for the purpose of inaugurating a fund for the erection of a church in that parish, which has been recently created, with Rev. Henry Skeffington as Administrator. The Most Rev. Dr. Henry, who addressed the meeting, said the district in pre-Reformation times seemed to have been well provided with church accommodation for the Faithful. That could not be said at the present time. The scattered population of the locality, especially the Catholic servants, had been put to great inconvenience for some years past owing to the want of a church in that neighborhood.

CLARE—School-book on Temperance

The 'Irish Temperance Reader,' of which Father Halpin, P.P., Scariff, County Clare, is the author has received hearty encomiums from Cardinal Gibbons, the Archbishop of Westminster, and the Bishops of Newport, Salford, Ardagh, Kerry, Clogher, Galway, and Elphin. One and all agree in the opinion that it is a treasury of the best and most varied information on the subject, and congratulate Father Halpin on the fact that it is sanctioned for use in National schools.

CORK—Temperance Progress

The Kanturk Total Abstinence Society, through the exertions of its president, Canon O'Connell, and its vice-president, the Rev. E. Griffin, have succeeded in purchasing outright their present meeting rooms, which in future will be the property of the parish.

Charitable Bequests

The late Mr. Michael M'Namara of Belleville, St. Luke's, County Cork, who died on the 5th of May, left the following charitable bequests: £100 to the North Charitable Infirmary, Cork; £100 to the South Charitable Infirmary; £100 to St. Patrick's Hospital for Cancer, and £100 to the Mercy Hospital, Cork.

DUBLIN—A Protest

In connection with the conferring of degrees at the Royal University of Ireland, a vigorous protest was made by a number of graduates and undergraduates against the methods adopted in the matter of cards of admission. A meeting of protest was held outside the buildings, and was addressed by, amongst others, Messrs. David Sheehy, M.P., and Mr. Sheehy-Skeffington, M.A.

Spread of Temperance

The Rev. Father Aloysius, O.S.F.C., Dublin, presiding on November 4, at the Workmen's Temperance Committee, referred to the recent great temperance demonstration in the city, and said he had it on reliable authority that not since the day of the unveiling of the O'Connell monument were there so many people assembled in O'Connell-street, and not a single case of drunkenness was recorded in the Police Courts next morning.

Charitable Bequests

The late Mr. O'Mulrennin bequeathed £300 to Dr. Douglas Hyde and Mr. John MacNeill for the teaching of Classic Irish, and £300 to his Grace the Archbishop of Dublin for the education of Irish boys in the Christian Brothers' schools.

Death of a Religious

Rev. Brother Fleming, a distinguished member of the Christian Brothers' Institute, died on October 31, at the House of the Community in Westland Row, Dublin. The deceased Brother had reached the age of 77 years, over 40 of which were spent in the great teaching Community mentioned. For some ten years he acted as Superior in the schools of the Order at St. John's, Newfoundland, and subsequently he filled a similar position at Mount Sion, Waterford, afterwards becoming Superior at the Synge-street Schools, Dublin. During the last three years he had been in failing health.

Post Office Appointment

Mr. James MacMahon, who has been appointed Chief accountant to the Post Office in Ireland, is a past pupil of Blackrock College, County Dublin. It is interesting to note that he is the first to fill the position who entered the Civil Service by open competition.

Control of Education

A great meeting of the Gaelic League was held recently in the Mansion House, Dublin, and was addressed by the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, Dr. Douglas Hyde, Mr. John MacNeill, Mr. Stephen Gwynn, Mr. Hugh Law, M.P., and other speakers. Dr. Hyde said the National Board had been tried and found wanting, and they demanded popular control of their national educational centre.

Fifty Years' Strenuous Labour

In the Church of St. Francis Xavier, Upper Gardiner-street, on Sunday, November 4, the Rev. Henry Lynch, S.J., preached a sermon in aid of St. Brigid's Orphanage, Eccles-street, which was founded in 1856 by the late Rev. John Gowan, C.M., and Miss Margaret Aylward. To save Catholic children from the clutches of the proselytisers is the object for which the institution was established, and that it has done this most successfully is well known. During the fifty years of its existence over 3000 orphans have been received within its walls, of whom 2798 have been taught trades, provided with situations, or otherwise given a means of earning a livelihood. There are four hundred and forty orphans now in the institution, which is conducted by the Sisters of the Holy Faith.

The Cost of Law and Order

The 'Freeman' publishes a letter from a correspondent on the cost of what is called 'Law and Order' in Dublin. The cost of the London Police Force is £88 per head; the cost of the Dublin Police Force is £139 per head. Why is that? Dublin is much more law-abiding than London. The tax levied on Dublin citizens for the upkeep of the Dublin Metropolitan Police is eightpence in the pound, treble what it is in Glasgow, and more than double what it is in the other large cities of Great Britain. But, whereas these cities control their own police, Dublin's police are controlled by the Government, and instead of being a municipal are an Imperial force. Worse still, this eightpenny rate remains stationary, no matter how much the valuation of the city may be increased. The thing is the grossest anomaly and injustice.

KERRY—An Enthusiastic Send-off

An enthusiastic send-off was accorded to Rev. Father O'Riordan, formerly of Liverpool, but now of Kerry diocese, by the people of Castletown Berehaven, on his leaving for the United States to collect funds for the erection of a much-needed parochial church in their district.

WATERFORD—A Word of Warning

His Lordship the Bishop of Waterford, speaking at the annual Convention of Affiliated Catholic Young Men's Societies in Ireland, referred to the education question. He said we could not conceal from ourselves the fact that in other countries with which we were brought closely into touch the drift and tendency was to create godless systems of education, separating the secular instruction of the young from the religious—to bring up the children for the greater part of their lives in an atmosphere that was ungodly when it was not actually atheistic, and to relegate to the Church the religious instruction of the young men and young women who were to be the men and women of the next generation. Although in Ireland no attempt had been made in that direction up to the present, still, the day might come when Irish Catholics might be compelled to fight for religion in the schools as the English Catholics were fighting at the present moment. If ever that time came there would be invaluable support to be derived from the young men if only they fought and trained to stand out boldly and as one body for the Catholic interests.

WEXFORD—Evicted Tenants Reinstated

It is announced that the tenants on the Coolroe Estate who were evicted about nineteen years ago are about to be reinstated at an early date, chiefly through the intercession of the Very Rev. Canon Kavanagh, P.P., D.D., V.F., and Mr. John Cummins, J.P.

WICKLOW—Death of a Priest

The death has occurred at Wicklow of the Very Rev. Thomas Carberry, P.P., V.F., who, previous to his appointment to the parish of Wicklow, was for many years engaged in parochial work in Dublin and neighborhood.

GENERAL

The Commission on Poor Laws

The Most Rev. Dr. Kelly, Bishop of Ross, Ireland, has been appointed a member of the Commission on Poor Laws, in succession to The O'Connor Don.

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Gaelic Literature

Over two thousand copies of the publications of the Society for the Preservation of the Irish Languages were sold during the half year ending on the 20th of June last.

The Potato Crop

In reply to Mr. O'Malley, the Chief Secretary for Ireland said the potato crop had partially failed in some parts of the West of Ireland. The extent of the distress likely to arise could not at present be foreseen, but the Government were paying the closest attention to the matter, and were considering the action proper to be taken.

An English Opinion

Mr. William Wrathall, an English merchant, who has just concluded a holiday in Ireland, says in the course of an enthusiastic eulogy of the country: 'I have travelled the wide world over, and were I able to retire to-day from the cares and turmoil of business I would come to live in Ireland on account of its beautiful scenery, its salubrious climate, its courteous people, and its wonderful opportunities for sport. The hunting is of the best, the shooting is most varied; there is excellent fishing, fine opportunities for yachting, and some of the best golf links in Great Britain. In fine, it is, in my opinion, an ideal spot and leaves nothing to be desired.'

Catholic Scholarships

Five first-class scholarships in Modern Literature offered by the Catholic Scholarships Committee have all been won this year by pupils of the Christian Brothers, as well as Mr. Sweetman's scholarship for excellence in Irish. Mr. Kelly's scholarship in Classics has been won by Clongowes, and in mathematics by St. Colman's, Fermoy. Among girls' schools, the first-class scholarship in Modern Literature goes to Loreto College, St. Stephen's Green; three of the four second-class scholarships to the Dominican Convent, Eccles street; and the fourth to the Loreto Convent, Wexford.

A Candid Opinion

'The Statist,' reviewing Irish finance since the famine, sums up the story thus: 'When everything is said, the fact remains that the decay of Ireland during the past 65 years is mainly the result of the policy of England—a policy adopted not, of course, to injure Ireland, but to benefit England; still, a policy which incidentally has had the result of, in the first place, destroying the one great Irish industry, and, in the second place, of burdening Ireland with a taxation altogether out of proportion to her resources.' This candid verdict from a leading British financial journal shows how the light is spreading even through the opaque obstruction offered by the prejudice and interest of the British financier.

The National School Teachers

A vigorous agitation (writes a Dublin correspondent) has been set on foot for reform of the system under which teachers of primary schools in Ireland suffer. In their demand for justice the teachers have the sympathy of people of all creeds and classes, and will receive the earnest support of the Irish Parliamentary party. Large and thoroughly representative meetings in furtherance of this object were held in Tipperary, Kilkenny, and Kildare the other day. Strong speeches were delivered, and letters of encouragement from friends unable to attend were read. Very Rev. Canon Ryan, P.P., presided at the Tipperary meeting. The Most Rev. Dr. Fennelly wrote a letter, in which he said the initial salaries were entirely too low. He hoped the meeting would rivet attention on the fact and demand that the equivalent grant be devoted to its proper uses. At Kilkenny, Very Rev. Canon Doyle, P.P., presided, and a letter from Rev. Dr. Brownrigg, Bishop of Ossory, was read, in which he said the Irish teachers writhe under the galling knowledge that they are the worst paid class in the British Empire; the managers of schools might apply for grants to repair them, or to replace them with new buildings and new equipments, but each application for relief only afforded an opportunity for a game of shuttlecock between the Commissioners in Marlborough street and the officials of the Treasury in London. At Kildare, Very Rev. Dr. Cole, Protestant Dean, presided. He criticised the action of the Government in appropriating the £185,000 voted for education to the floating of Land Stock, and declared that it should be applied to the purpose for which it was voted, and to no other. A domestic servant with from £15 to £20 a year and board and lodging was better off than the male and female teachers commencing at £56 and £48 a year respectively.

People We Hear About

Sir John Madden, Chief Justice of Victoria, has been telling a Cork interviewer that his visit to Cork is the first after fifty years' absence. He lived in Ireland till 1851. In my early youth, said Sir John, I was the play-fellow of Dr. Tanner, of the Irish Parliamentary Party, whose father lived next door to my father at Blackrock, but my father went to England in 1851, and I went there to live with him for a little while, but was sent to school in Beauchamp, near Lille, in France, where I stayed for two years. At the end of 1856 I left for Australia with my father, and, mark you, he was a Young Irishman, and an intimate friend of the gifted and eloquent Thomas Francis Meagher—Meagher of the Sword—and indeed you will get an idea of his political predilections and of his patriotism when I tell you that he secured and cherished as his dearest possession the sword of Lord Edward Fitzgerald, a relic that is still kept by my family in Australia.

The election of Mr. Stephen Gwynn for Galway (says the 'Freeman's Journal') has naturally turned the thoughts of Irish patriots to the career of his grandfather, the illustrious William Smith O'Brien, who held Mr. Gwynn as an infant in his arms. Smith O'Brien's father was a gentleman of the highest and purest patriotic principles. He represented the County of Clare in the Irish Parliament at the time of the Union, and his wife was a sister of the Countess of the great Earl of Charlemont, the Leader of the Irish Volunteers. Sir Lucius O'Brien was approached with the offer of a peerage and a bride in return for support of the Union—offers which he spurned with loathing abhorrence and indignation. Mr. Whiteside in defending Smith O'Brien on trial for his life in Clonmel in 1848 referred to this episode. He said that his client had heard from the lips of his father, an Irish senator whom bribes could not purchase, whom a peerage could not lure, whom threats could not coerce to betray his country, that Ireland's Parliament had been destroyed, and that its destruction had been compassed by a combination of force and fraud for which the records of history presented no parallel.

The new Lord Arundell of Wardour is the Rev. the Hon. Everard Aloysius Gonzaga Arundell, who was born on September 6, 1834, educated at Stonyhurst, graduating B.A. at London University. He is a secular priest, and is now resident at Bournemouth, being attached to the Mission of the Sacred Heart, Richmond Hill. His cheery and affable manner to everybody, rich and poor, Catholic and non-Catholic (says an English paper), has won for him no end of friends in all classes of the community. Interviewed, Father Arundell said he hardly knew what his future arrangements would be. 'Of course, your lordship will be going away from us now?' 'Don't be too sure of that,' replied his lordship. 'It does not follow by any means that I shall be leaving you,' and added, 'Remember that the successor to the Baronetcy of Sir Wm. Heathcote, who was a Jesuit priest, preferred to go on with his work amongst the poor and needy rather than take over the management of the estate with its farms and lands. One thing is certain, whatever happens, I shall have nothing to do with the estate at Wardour; in fact, it is left to the Lady Arundell for life. I shall have an allowance, and, of course, a seat in the House of Lords.'

The election of Mr. Thomas Hughes as Sydney's Chief Magistrate for 1907 (says the 'Freeman's Journal') gives that gentleman a record similar to the famous Sir Richard Whittington, who was 'thrice Lord Mayor of London.' Readers of this journal are familiar with the advent of Mr. Hughes into municipal politics in his native city. Reform on progressive and creditable lines came in with him and such as he, and will continue so long as the citizens show the same hearty appreciation of their efforts as they did at the recent elections. The late Lord Mayor signalized his tenure of office by an activity in the higher interests of Sydney worthy of all praise. He leaves the Mayoral seat with a record which savors of no single unpleasantness deserving of permanent remembrance, and his last action in the election of his successor counts for chivalry in a quarter little remarkable for that quality. In that successor the citizens are assured of a career no less energetic in progress than that of Lord Mayor Taylor, with the further assurance that to a superb ability for finance Mr. Hughes will add a less sanguine attitude towards pet schemes and a thoroughly convinced mind on the subject of a Greater Sydney.

LIST OF WINNERS OF CASH BONUSES IN THE EIGHT HALF-YEARLY KOZIE TEA CASH DISTRIBUTION, DECEMBER 7, 1906.

Miss M. Cannon, Milton	... £5 0 0
Mrs E. Adamson, Greymouth	... 5 0 0
St. Columbkilles' Convent Hokitika	5 0 0
Mr J. Scott, Morven	... 3 0 0
Miss McPherson, Balfour	... 2 0 0
Mrs W. Woodill, Waimate	... 1 0 0
Mrs A. Linchan, Karamca	... 0 10 0
Miss A. Kelly, Otiara	... 0 10 0
Miss J. M. Fitzgerald, Wainihinihi	0 10 0
Mr Dick Smith, Milton	... 0 10 0
Mrs T. Jones, Kumara	... 0 10 0
Mrs J. Davis, Milton	... 0 10 0
Mrs W. Beeson, Ormond	... 0 10 0
Miss K. Lockhart, Milton	... 0 10 0

And 40 others of 5/- each to various parts of the Colony.

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Proprietress (Late of Gore and Tuapeka).

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Corner of KING and ST. ANDREW STS.

MR. CHARLES BRANSON, who for many years was at the Grand, has now assumed the management of the above Hotel, which is centrally situated at the corner of Great King Street and St. Andrew Street. At considerable cost the whole building has undergone reconstruction. It has been greatly enlarged, furnished and appointed, regardless of expense, making it the most comfortable Hotel in town. It comprises 18 bedrooms, bathroom, large dining, drawing, smoking, billiard, and commercial rooms. Fire escape and iron balcony completely surrounds the Hotel, giving the most ample security against fire.

Tariff—5s per day; 25s per week.
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MASONIC HOTEL CHRISTCHURCH,

Visitors to the above Hotel will receive
Oad Mile Faltte from the Proprietor,

E. POWER

Late of Dunedin.



Standard Brand

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IS NOTED FOR ITS
STYLE, FIT & FINISH.

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Tailor, and can be
procured at about half the price.

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EUROPEAN HOTEL, GEORGE STREET, DUNEDIN.

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Best brands of Wines and Spirits kept.

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(Late Ranfurly, Central Otago).

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Black Grenadine Voiles, 44-inch—2s 11d, 3s 3d, 3s 6d, 4s 6d.

Black Voiles—2s 9d, 3s 3d, 3s 9d, 4s 6d, 5s.

Black Alpaca and Stiffians—2s 4d, 2s 9d, 3s 3d, 4s, 4s 6d, to 6s 6d.

Black Delaines—2s 9d, 3s, 3s 6d, 4s, 4s 6d.

Black Silk Delaines—7s 6d, 8s 6d.

Black Crepe de Chine and Evelines—4s 6d, 4s 9d, 4s 11d.

Kilroy and Sutherland,

174, 176, 178 PRINCES STREET,
AND
ROSS PLACE, LAWRENCE.

MIDLAND RAILWAY HOTEL TOTARA FLAT.

MR. H. ERICKSON (late of Orwell Creek)
Proprietor.

An Excellent Table kept. First-class Accommodation. The Beers, Wines, Spirits, etc., sold are of the very best. Refreshment Rooms at Railway Station. Billiard- Billiards, with an efficient marker.

Mr. Erickson, having a thorough knowledge of the whole district, will be pleased to give directions and other assistance to travellers and persons interested in Mining

"SPRING BLOSSOM OINTMENT" is a Marvellous Remedy for Blood-poisoning, Poisoned Hands, Inflamed or Ulcerated Wounds.

"SPRING BLOSSOM OINTMENT" cures Chilblains (broken or unbroken), Chapped Hands, Sprayed Skin, and all Smarting Eruptions.

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"SPRING BLOSSOM OINTMENT" THE GREAT HEALER, cures all it touches. Sold everywhere. Price 6d and 1s box.

"BLOOMING," the great Corn, Wart, and Bunion Cure. Price 6d—everywhere.

"SPRING BLOSSOM PILLS" cure Indigestion, Liver, Kidney, and Stomach troubles, 6d & 1/- everywhere or post free from Mrs. L. HAWKINS, 106 George St., Dunedin

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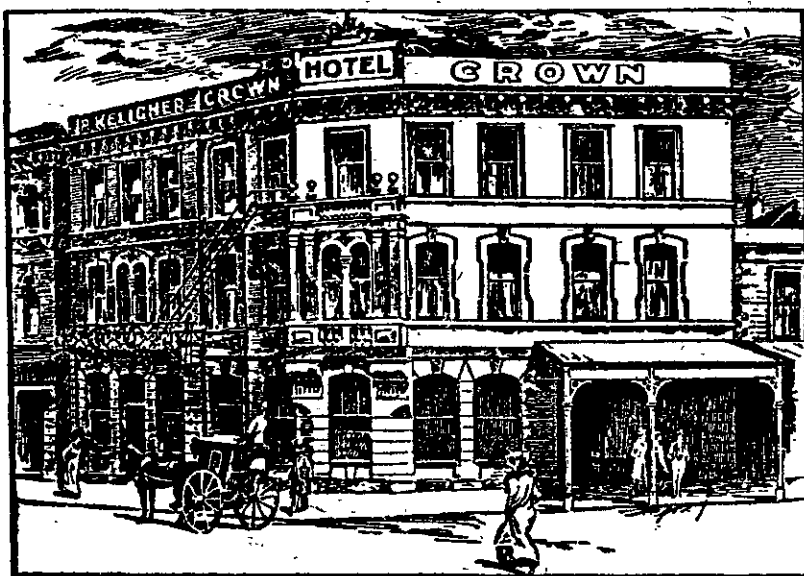
Wishes to thank his patrons for past support, and to notify them that he will in future use his utmost endeavours to give every satisfaction.

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SAYS:—

Dear Sir,—I think it my duty to express my thanks to you for the relief obtained by the use of your wonderful Mountain King Asthma Powder. I have been a martyr of Asthma for years, and have tried many supposed remedies without success. I was advised by a friend to try your Powder, and can assure you that I have never obtained such true relief before, and can recommend all sufferers to try Mountain King Asthma Powder, which is indeed a boon to sufferers from Asthma and Bronchitis.

Yours sincerely,

GEORGE DUTCH.

Leith Street, Dunedin.

Obtainable from all Merchants throughout the Colony.

The Catholic World

DENMARK—The Position of the Church

Rev. Charles Hangauer, of Odense, Denmark, was recently on a visit to Philadelphia. In a brief interview with a representative of the 'Catholic Standard and Times' he spoke hopefully of the outlook for the Church in Denmark, where as late as 1849 it was a capital offence for a Catholic priest to officiate, and where the Danes even later were forbidden to be present at the services held in the chapels attached to the embassies of Catholic countries. The Catholic population of Denmark is about ten thousand out of a total of two and a half millions. Of the Catholics, about three thousand are in the capital city, Copenhagen, where there are six churches, including the cathedral and a church in charge of the Jesuit Fathers. Many of the Catholics are converts from Lutheranism, who, Father Hangauer says, make excellent Catholics. He spoke of one mission which began with ten Catholics and shortly after numbered five hundred, nearly all of them converts. Of the ten thousand Catholics of Denmark, six thousand are natives.

ENGLAND—Downside Abbey

Rev. Father Cuthbert Butler has been elected Abbot of Downside. He was born at Dublin in 1858, and was educated at Downside School, graduating at both Cambridge and London Universities. He has edited volumes for the 'Cambridge Texts and Studies,' and has written articles in the 'Journal of Theological Studies,' the 'Innbert Journal,' and other periodicals.

The Late Mr. Devas

The death is reported of Mr. Charles S. Devas, which occurred on November 6 while he was on a visit to his brother at Farningham, Kent. Mr. Devas was the son of William Devas, Woodside, Old Windsor, and was born in 1818. He was educated at Eton and Balliol College, Oxford, where he took first-class honors in law and modern history. He entered at Lincoln's Inn, intending to become a barrister, but the intention was not carried out. The teachings of Newman and other leading converts made a deep impression on him, and he studied Catholic doctrinal questions and Catholic literature closely. The result was that he was received into the Catholic Church in 1869.

Catholic Teachers

Under the Lords' Amendments (says the 'Catholic Times') parents are to have a voice in the appointment of teachers to the denominational schools. This is as it should be in a free country. But the conditions of it will require, and no doubt receive, very careful watching. With it comes the question of the training colleges, without which no supply of teachers can be provided. Our rights in that matter are quite clear, and perhaps Mr. Birrell may see his way to recognise them. He may, however, quite possibly not see his way to recognise anything at all, for it is now more than likely that he will drop the Bill and next year bring in another. That again, to be satisfactory, must either create secular or denominational schools all round. Either solution might easily be made workable: but Mr. Birrell must remember that secular education is intolerable to Catholics for Catholic children. He may arrange that the State shall pay not one penny for religious instruction in schools, but he must not arrange that teachers may not give such instruction if they choose. In other words, his Bill must not secularise the schools by a prohibition of religious instruction in them.

FRANCE—The Troubles of the Government

The French Premier and M. Briand, in pursuing a policy of conciliation (says the 'Catholic Times'), recognise that to engage at once in a more active persecution of the Church would result in arousing on behalf of the persecuted sympathies that now lie dormant, and moreover, take the action of some Catholic leaders such as the Cardinal-Archbishop of Bordeaux, who has just formed a diocesan association to 'prepare the way for legal associations,' as indicating a distinct desire to come to terms with the Government. But their friend, the Paris correspondent of the 'Times,' supplies some noteworthy information as to the difficulties they encounter. There is, we learn from him, 'a subterranean conflict' between the Government and the delegation of the Left, a body representing certain fractions of the majority. Under the Combes Ministry this 'delegation' ruled the Parliamentary road, the Cabinet being little more than its executive committee. The present Government rigor-

ously resents the arbitrary interference of this Parliamentary coterie. What does the correspondent's somewhat mysterious language mean? Is it that M. Clemenceau and M. Briand dislike being mere instruments in the hands of M. Combes' masters, the Freemasons, and mindful of the outcry caused by their interference with army appointments, wish to rule without obeying their behests? Is this the secret of the subterranean conflict?

A Change for the Worse

Nothing, says 'La Liberté,' can give to those who have not visited them an idea of the state of dirt and disorder which reigns in the French public hospitals. This condition of affairs dates from the expulsion of the Sisters, and from the introduction of laymen and women picked up at hazard to replace them as nurses and attendants. These nurses and attendants are in a perpetual state of insubordination. Last week some four hundred of them presented themselves at the Bourse de Travail, in order to protest against their being employed on Sundays. They wished, they said, like other citizens, to avail themselves of the 'privileges of the law'; but on seeing the police on their track they turned tail and fled in all directions.

ROME—The Holy Father's Health

On the morning of All Saints' Day (writes the Rome correspondent of the Dublin 'Freeman's Journal') his Holiness Pius X., quite recovered from his recent indisposition, celebrated Mass in his private chapel, after which he gave audience to his sisters. These good and simple women live in the vicinity of the Vatican, and preserve the simplicity of their former life in an admirable manner. Once a week they visit their brother the Pontiff, and have a conversation with him in the dialect of Riese, where he was born.

Father Fleming

The Very Rev. Father David Fleming, O.F.M., Provincial of the Franciscan Order in England, has arrived in Rome and taken up his residence in the Irish Franciscan Convent of St. Isidore, on the Pincian Hill. Father Fleming's duties in Rome occupy his time fully, consisting as they do of attendance at the Congregations in which he is Consultor.

SPAIN—Religious Associations

Though the Spanish Government (says the 'Catholic Times') profess to entertain no hostility to the Catholic religion, their Bill on Associations will subject the religious Orders to same severe rules and restrictions. When an association proposes to become domiciled in a place it must present to the civil governor of the province documents showing its constitution, the form of its administration, and what are the means upon which it relies for accomplishing its work; and any changes in the statutes or regulations of the association must also be made known to the civil authorities. The provincial governors are likewise to be informed of the number of members in the local associations, their names, nationalities, and so on. The Government claims for itself the power of suspending any association for public reasons or the security of the State. The governors in their respective provinces, and the mayors in their respective districts, can enter the premises of any association affected by the Bill, inspect books and other documents, and enter into investigations when the cause of public health or morality, or a request from any member of the association is held to make such a visit necessary. Associations cannot in any case possess more immovable property than is indispensable for the attainment of the objects laid down in their statutes. These are a few of the more noteworthy clauses, and it will be seen that they give the State extensive powers of surveillance.

GENERAL

The Jesuits as Astronomers

The following appeared in a recent issue of the 'Manila American':—A high compliment was paid to the Manila observatory by Captain A. W. Outerbridge, of the steamship 'Taming,' in the following letter, which he addressed to the South China 'Morning Post,' of Hong Kong: 'Sir,—The notice (?) we had of the approach of typhoon of this morning is typical of the kind of service we get from the observatory here (in Hong Kong), and as a China coaster of twenty-five years' service, eighteen as master in one of the most prominent firms, I would suggest that the Jesuit Fathers in either Shanghai or Manila be petitioned to take over the meteorological service here that they may all work in harmony and that we may expect some reasonable security in the way of notice, and some really definite idea of the whereabouts

A HIGH AUTHORITY ON WAI-RONGOA MINERAL WATER.

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The *New Zealand Medical Journal* says

In regard to the Water itself, as a table beverage it can be confidently recommended. Beautifully cool, clear and effervescing, the taste clean, with just sufficient chalybeate astringency to remind one that there are healing virtues as well as simple refreshment in the liquid, this Mineral Water ought soon to become popular amongst all who can afford the very slight cost entailed."

We supply the Dunedin and Wellington Hospitals, the Union Company's entire fleet, and Bellamy's with our Pure Mineral Water. Specially-made Soda Water for Invalids. For Permit to visit Springs apply Dunedin Office.

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PURIRI NATURAL MINERAL WATER.

FOR RHEUMATISM, INDIGESTION
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Grain! Grain! Grain! Chaff! Potatoes! etc.

SEASON 1907.

OTAGO CORN AND WOOL EXCHANGE, VOGEL ST., DUNEDIN.

To the Farmers of Otago and Southland.

ANOTHER Grain Season being at hand, we take the opportunity of thanking our many Clients for their patronage in the past, and to again tender our services for the disposal of their Grain here, or for shipment of same to other markets, making liberal cash advances thereon, if required.

Special Facilities for Storage, &c.—We would remind Producers that we provide special facilities for the satisfactory storage and disposal of all kinds of farm produce. Our Stores are dry, airy, thoroughly ventilated, and in every respect admirably adapted for the safe storage of Grain, being conveniently situated, and connected to railway by private siding. Produce consigned to us is delivered direct into Store, and is saved the loss and waste incurred in unloading and again carting into warehouse.

Weekly Auction Sales.—We continue to hold the regular Weekly Auction Sales of Produce as inaugurated by us many years ago, and which have proved so beneficial to vendors; and owing to our commanding position in the centre of the trade, and our large and extending connection, we are in constant touch with all the principal grain merchants, millers, and produce dealers, and are thus enabled to dispose of consignments to the very best advantage, and with the least possible delay.

Account Sales are rendered within Six Days of Sale.

Corn Sacks, Chaff Bags, &c.—Having made advantageous arrangements to meet the requirements of our numerous Clients, we can supply best Calcutta Corn Sacks, all sizes, and at the lowest prices. Also Chaff Bags, Seaming Twine, and all farmers' requisites at the shortest notice, and on the best terms.

ADVANTAGES.—We offer Producers the advantage of large Storage and unequalled Show Room Accommodation. No delays in offering. Expert Valuers and Staff. The best Service. The Lowest Scale of Charges. The Highest Prices, and Prompt Returns

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"COALBROOKDALE!"

All good Cooks know the value of a quick hot oven. It is impossible to make Cakes, light Pastry, or indeed anything else of the kind with a slow fire. That's why big Hotel Kitchens the Colony throughout use COALBROOKDALE. It is a strong, powerful Coal, full of fierce heat. Instead of pottering away with low-priced Lignite, use COALBROOKDALE, and your cooking will be a success!

If used for all Kitchen purposes, time will be much economised. You can boil a pot in half the time with a fire of COALBROOKDALE that you can by burning Lignite. This means a great deal to the already hard-worked Housewife. It gives her more time to rest, less bustle, and greater satisfaction in the results of her cooking.

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Telephone 1157.

... 154 PRINCES STREET.

and action of these devastating storms. In this I am sure I do but voice the opinion of all the shipping community, for we place the most implicit faith in the forecasts of the worthy Fathers, and swear by them; these 'experts' here we usually swear at." The remarkable manner in which the local (Manila) observatory has warned the shipping interests of approaching storms has saved millions of dollars during recent years, and with the extension of the wireless telegraph system no part of the islands can be affected without prompt warning. The wonderful service rendered is only appreciated here when an opportunity is offered to compare it with that of other ports. The recent disaster at Hong Kong, that destroyed millions of dollars' worth of shipping and thousands of lives, without a note of warning being sounded of its approach, gives us reason for gratification in the knowledge that we have an institution that is up-to-date, even aggressive, in its operations, and we owe a huge debt to the modest members of the Jesuit Society, who have so faithfully preserved us from sudden and fearful disaster.

'Little Christmas'

January 6, the Feast of the Epiphany and the end of the holidays, is called 'Little Christmas,' 'Old Christmas,' or 'Twelfth Day.' In the Greek Church the festival is coincident with the celebration of Christmas, and is called 'The Day of Lights.'

In 'Merrie England' of olden times the Catholic sovereigns on this day offered in the Chapel Royal an oblation of gold, frankincense, and myrrh in commemoration of the gift-giving of the Three Wise Men to the Babe of Bethlehem.

The story of the Magi is one of the most enchanting narratives in Holy Scripture. The tender, helpless, little Babe, the lovely girl-mother, the venerable foster-father, the shepherds from the Judean hills, and the cattle in the stalls—all about the Mother and Child are poor and simple until 'from the East,' in Oriental splendor three kings come to the stable of Bethlehem to worship the King of Kings.

These three kings, Gaspar, Melchior, and Balthasar, descended from Ham, Shem, and Japheth, represented the three families of mankind, African, Asiatic, and European, and typified the world-dominion of Christianity.

When the Lord of Misrule held sway in the secular celebration of Christmas during the Middle Ages, Twelfth Night was by no means 'the last of the holidays,' which for Misrule and his often unruly followers extended from Hallowe'en until Candlemas Day—three full months. Certainly they had time to waste in play long ago. In these busy times Merry Christmas has come to mean only one day, although in our churches the Christmas Crib remains on view during the entire holiday season.

ST. JOSEPH'S CONVENT SCHOOL, TEMUKA

The annual distribution of prizes at St. Joseph's Convent School, Temuka, was held in the schoolroom on December 18. The prizes were given to the successful scholars by the Rev. Father Goggan, who addressed a few suitable words to each one. The following is the prize list:—

Standard VII.—Good conduct, Adelaide Behrens (gold medal).

Standard VI.—For highest number of marks at recent musical examination, Zoe Gillespie (silver medal); regular attendance, Kate Greelish; Christian doctrine, Irene Wareing, Ellen Brosnan; Christian doctrine, Leo Twomey.

Standard IV.—Regular attendance, James Horgan; Christian doctrine, Joseph Spillane and Eva Wareing.

Standard III.—Regular attendance, Michael Daley; Christian doctrine, Ellen Brosnan.

Standard II.—Regular attendance, Mary Daley; Christian doctrine, Arthur Perry.

Standard I.—Regular attendance, Walter Tangney; Christian doctrine, Albert Keefe.

Preparatory I.—Regular attendance, Kate McAuliffe, Mabel Vincent, and Denis Croxford.

Preparatory II.—Regular attendance, Denis Sughrue.

Preparatory III.—Regular attendance, Margaret Brosnan and Mary Keefe.

Prizes for special subjects, John Keefe; spelling, A. Clinch and Julia Lynch.

Domestic

By 'Maureen'

Removing Fat from Soup.

To remove fat from hot soup, pour through a cloth that has been saturated with cold water. The fat will remain in the cloth.

Shining Mirrors.

The really best method of cleaning mirrors and windows is to rub them with a paste of whiting and water. When this dries polish with dry chamois and remove the powder. A little alcohol in cold water also gives a brilliant polish. Soapsuds should never be used.

White Furniture.

White furniture and woodwork can be beautifully cleaned with whiting. Wring a flannel cloth from hot water, dip it in the dry whiting, and rub well to remove all stains. Then wash off the whiting with clean warm water, and dry with a soft cloth. The rubbing strokes should always be in the direction of the grain of the wood.

No More Tough Meat.

If meat is tough, or if you have any doubt as to its tenderness, put a tablespoonful of vinegar over it when putting it on to cook; you will find it very tender when done. Try steaming fowls instead of boiling; you will find that the meat is always tender, and the full benefit of the fowl is kept, besides a very delicate flavor.

Kitchen Stoves as Bright as Mirrors.

If your kitchen range or stove has got spotted with grease while cooking, and you cannot get it to polish, a good way to remove it is as follows. Take a little hand brush, preferably the one used for brushing the pans before putting them away, smear it well with soot from the flue, and rub it well over the greasy parts. Afterwards blacklead as usual, and you will find the grease has disappeared, and a brilliant polish will be the result.

Soap the Boiler Well.

One often hears complaints that the wash-house boiler rusts and ironmoulds the clothes. This may be easily prevented by rubbing the boiler directly it is emptied and while still warm with any good household soap. Give it a good coating of soap, for the soap will not only prevent rust, but will help to make the suds when the boiler is filled for the next washing day. When damping clothes use hot water. It damps the clothes more evenly than cold.

How to Clean Water Bottles.

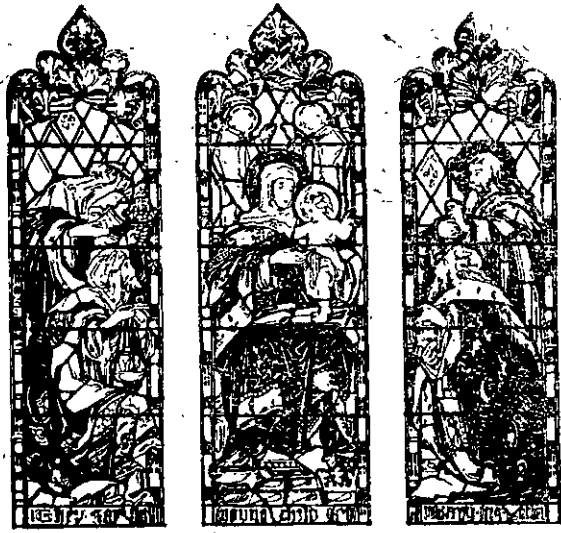
Cut a potato into small dice and cover it with vinegar. Put some of this mixture into each bottle and shake till clean. Then rinse in clear water and drain dry. The potato is quite as efficacious as the shot which is sometimes used by servants, and is perfectly safe, whereas when shot is used there is always a certain amount of danger of lead-poisoning from the particles of lead which may accidentally be left at the bottom of the bottle.

How Sea-Bathing is Sometimes Injurious.

Many seaside visitors regard a dip before breakfast as part of the gospel of health. The assumption is warranted neither by experience nor theory. Very few people are benefited by a bath in the open while fasting. Always the water is colder than the body surface, and frequently in the early hours of the morning the air is chilly. Bathing should be made stimulating to the circulation and the consciousness. If a bather leaves the water just when he is most thoroughly enjoying his dip, and dresses quickly, after a brisk rub down, he will act wisely. Many persons stay in until they begin to feel chilly. This is certain to lower the spirits and to injure the system. One should be quite warm on entering the water, for which reason a brisk walk and rapid undressing should always enter into the programme. It is a mistake to bathe immediately after a meal. Midway between breakfast and luncheon is the best time.

Maureen

WANTED—Vice-Regal and other Testimonials applied to **Cantharides and Rosemary** have not made it famous — it is the hair preparation itself. Try it and be convinced. 2/6; postage, 3d. extra. — **ILES & POOLE** Hairdressers — Princes Street, Dunedin, SOLE PROPRIETORS.



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We have made a special study of this Branch of our Art, and claim that our Windows are equal to any imported.

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Our Patent Steel-strengthened Lead does entirely away with the old-fashioned and unsightly flange bars.

PHOTOGRAPHIC GOODS

Cameras, Magazine (hand), 1-plate, from 9s upwards.

Folding Hand or Stand Cameras from 22s 6d. Half-plate Complete Sets from 87s 6d each. Camera Cases, Canvas, 8s 6d and 6s each; 1-plate Magazine Camera size.

Calcium Tubes, 6 x 3, 1s 6d each. Calcium Tubes, 10 x 4, 2s 8d each.

Carriers, 1-plate to 1-plate, 1s 6d each. Clips, for Prints, Plates, or Films, Wooden, 9d dozen.

Cutting Shapes Glass, 1-plate, 9d and 1s each; 1-plate, 1s and 1s 8d each.

CHEMICALS (PHOTOGRAPHIC).

Acid Pyrogallie, 1s 8d oz. Amidol 3s 3d oz.

Ammon. Sulphocyanide, 6d oz; 4s 6d per lb.

Formalin, 3oz 1s.

Gold Chloride (Johnson's), 2s 6d tube.

Hydroquinone, 1s 8d oz.

Metal, 3s 8d oz.

Potash Bromide, 3s 6d lb.

Potash Carbonate, Pure, 3d oz.

Potash Metabisulphite, 6d oz.

Silver Nitrate, 3s 6d oz.

Soda Carbonate, Pure, 9d lb; in bottles 1s per lb.

Soda Sulphite, Pure, 9d per lb; in bottles, 1s per lb.

Soda Hypo. (pea crystals), 3d lb; 5lb, 1s.

Soda Phosphate, 8d oz.

Other Chemicals at Equally Cheap Rates.

Developers, No. 1 and 2 Solutions, 10oz size, 1s 3d.

Tabloid Developers, B. W. and Co.'s Amidol, Pyro Soda, Metal Pyro, and Metal Quinol, 1s 4d each.

Compressed Developers, Powell's, Pyro Metal, Pyro Soda, and Metal Hydroquinone, 1s 4d each.

TONING TABLOIDS AND COMPRESSED TONING BATHS.

Gold and Sulphocyanide, and Gold and Phosphate, 1s 4d each.

Combined Toning and Fixing Compressed, 1s 4d.

Developing Dishes, Zylonite, strong 1-plate, with spout, 8d each; 1-plate, with spout and filter, 1s each; 5 x 4 plate, with spout, 10d each; 1-plate, with spout, 1s each; 1-1-plate, with spout, 1s 9d each.

Developing Baths for Films, the Waverley, 5s 3d each.

Developing Dishes, semi-Porcelain, 8 x 10, 3s 6d each; 12 x 10, 5s 6d each; 12 x 15, 10s 6d each.

Developing and Printing for Amateurs done at Lowest Rates, and with utmost promptitude.

Draining Racks, Wooden, for Plates, 9d each.

Draining Racks and Wash Tanks, combined, 1-Plates, 9d; 1-Plate, 1s 6d.

Enlargers, 1-Plate to 1-1-Plate.

Enlarging Lanterns, for using with Camera, 27s 6d; enlarges up to any size.

Exposure Meters, Imperial, 1s 4d each.

Exposure Meter Refills, 8d each.

Ferrotypes Plates, for enamelling 6d each.

Films, Kodak Roll, No. 1. Brownie, 10d; No. 2, Brownie, 1s 2d; 2 1/2 x 2 1/2, 2s 6d; 2 1/2 x 4 1/2, 3s 6d; 2 1/2 x 5 1/2, 4s 6d; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2, 4s 6d; 4 1/2 x 5 1/2, 5s 6d; 5 1/2 x 6 1/2, 6s 6d; 6 1/2 x 7 1/2, 7s 6d; 7 1/2 x 8 1/2, 8s 6d; 8 1/2 x 9 1/2, 9s 6d; 9 1/2 x 10 1/2, 10s 6d; 10 1/2 x 11 1/2, 11s 6d; 11 1/2 x 12 1/2, 12s 6d; 12 1/2 x 13 1/2, 13s 6d; 13 1/2 x 14 1/2, 14s 6d; 14 1/2 x 15 1/2, 15s 6d; 15 1/2 x 16 1/2, 16s 6d; 16 1/2 x 17 1/2, 17s 6d; 17 1/2 x 18 1/2, 18s 6d; 18 1/2 x 19 1/2, 19s 6d; 19 1/2 x 20 1/2, 20s 6d; 20 1/2 x 21 1/2, 21s 6d; 21 1/2 x 22 1/2, 22s 6d; 22 1/2 x 23 1/2, 23s 6d; 23 1/2 x 24 1/2, 24s 6d; 24 1/2 x 25 1/2, 25s 6d; 25 1/2 x 26 1/2, 26s 6d; 26 1/2 x 27 1/2, 27s 6d; 27 1/2 x 28 1/2, 28s 6d; 28 1/2 x 29 1/2, 29s 6d; 29 1/2 x 30 1/2, 30s 6d; 30 1/2 x 31 1/2, 31s 6d; 31 1/2 x 32 1/2, 32s 6d; 32 1/2 x 33 1/2, 33s 6d; 33 1/2 x 34 1/2, 34s 6d; 34 1/2 x 35 1/2, 35s 6d; 35 1/2 x 36 1/2, 36s 6d; 36 1/2 x 37 1/2, 37s 6d; 37 1/2 x 38 1/2, 38s 6d; 38 1/2 x 39 1/2, 39s 6d; 39 1/2 x 40 1/2, 40s 6d; 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Science Siftings

By 'Volt'

How High Birds Fly.

Those interested in the ways of feathered folk are still discussing the question of how high birds fly. Again and again balloons have been sent out to ascertain this, and several German aeronauts have collected valuable information.

At present it is believed that the average height of 'bird tracks' through the air is about 1300 feet above the earth, though occasionally they have been discovered at an elevation of from 6000 to 7000 feet.

Sterilising Milk.

The Paris "Matin" announces that Professor Behring has discovered a new method of sterilising milk without boiling it or destroying any of its essential principles. The method is based on the powerful qualities of German perphydrol simply oxygenated. One gramme per litre of this substance is sufficient to destroy all noxious germs. Milk thus sterilised can be kept a long time, and is not injured by travelling, but it cannot be drunk until it has been gently warmed and a drop of a catalytic substance added extracted from the milk itself. Dr. Behring sent two bottles of this sterilised milk to the central laboratory of the Ministry of Agriculture in Berlin, where it was found that the milk was perfectly pure. The "Matin" adds: Dr. Behring proved that light has a very harmful effect on the milk, whether sterilised, hot, or cold, and he recommends that it should be kept in a dark place or in red or green bottles.

What We Owe to Insects.

Professor Darwin said that if it had not been for insects we should never have had any more imposing or attractive flowers than those of the elm, the hop, and the nettle. Lord Avebury compares the work of the insect to that of the florist. He considers that just as the florist has by selection produced the elegant blossoms of the garden, so the insects, by selecting the largest and brightest blossoms for fertilisation, have produced the gay flowers of the field. Professor Plateau, of Ghent, has carried out a series of remarkable experiments on the ways of insects visiting flowers. He considers that they are guided by scent rather than by color, and in this contention he is at variance with certain British naturalists. Whatever may be the attractions in flowers to insects—as yet it appears undefined—it is certain that the latter visit freely all blossoms alike, making no distinction between the large, bright-colored ones and the less conspicuous blooms like those of the currant, the lime, the plane-tree, the nettle, and the willow.

Humming-Birds.

Some interesting characteristics of the humming-bird were given in a recent number of the "Field." A peculiarity of these birds, it appears, is their apparent lack of intelligence, while they are also remarkable for their vitality. At times when considered dead they have been quickly restored to life by placing them in light and warmth. They also resemble insects, particularly hawk-moths, in their custom of obtaining food from flowers, although they undoubtedly extract nectar from the blossoms; their chief food consists of insects which they find in the blossoms; certain species have been observed feeding on insects gathered from the leaves of various plants. Gould, in a comprehensive and valuable monograph on these birds, written in 1861, referred to about 400 species, but this number has been considerably added to since. It was Gould who brought a specimen of the ruby-throated humming-bird to London, but it lived only a very short time. A humming-bird captured at Washington also existed in captivity for several days in the care of this clever naturalist, who carried it about in a little gauze bag suspended on a piece of whalebone attached to a button of his coat. Gould fed it on sugar or honey and water with yolk of egg added, the mixture being carried in a bottle in his pocket; at feeding time he merely held the bottle against the bag, when the little bird readily thrust its bill through the gauze and down the neck of the bottle and sucked up the fluid until it was satiated; it would then retire to the bottom of its bag and preen its feathers.

Intercolonial

The unique spectacle of debt on a new church being subscribed within a few months (says the "Freeman's Journal") was witnessed by his Eminence Cardinal Moran at Cooranbong. This thriving little town, situated about three and a half miles from Morrisett, on the Northern line, through the loyalty and prompt co-operation of the faithful, had added another bright link to the marvellous chain of progress which has marked the career of the Catholic Church in Australia. Recognising the necessity of a more substantial and permanent edifice for the accommodation of his parishioners, Father Power, the parish priest, placed this fact before his people some little time ago. An energetic committee was at once formed, and, aided by the remarkable loyalty, faith, and generosity of the people, in less than seven months an imposing structure was erected. The collection at the ceremony of blessing and opening was sufficient to liquidate the balance of the debt.

It is very gratifying (says the Sydney "Freeman") to record the success of the Christian Brothers' Colleges at the Adelaide University, following, as they are, so closely upon the senior results of the Sydney University recently published. In the results, which were announced last week, we find that in the higher public—the most advanced examination for which any college in Australia presents candidates—the Brothers' College in Perth secured first and fourth places in the two States, with a total of eleven students passing the examination. The first place ensures the W.A. Government scholarship of £150 a year for three years, unless, as it seems not improbable, this student is awarded the Rhodes Scholarship, when the Government scholarships would have to be relinquished. The Adelaide College secured third place in the same examination, winning a University scholarship of £35 a year for three years. These students obtained first-class honors in Greek, Latin, English, French, Mathematics, and Science. In the Junior Public Examinations the Perth College passed sixteen students, obtaining first and second places from all candidates in the two colonies, thus securing the first and second scholarships awarded to local students by the W.A. Government and the cash prizes of £10 each awarded by the University. These students also obtained first-class honors in Greek, Latin, English, French, Mathematics, and Physical Science. The Adelaide College had fourteen successful students in this examination.

At the blessing of a new church at Cooranbong on Sunday, December 16, his Eminence Cardinal Moran referred to prominent topics as follows:—You have had during the past few days a deal of excitement over the elections, and I trust that that excitement has now passed away, and that those who were engaged in political strife, and have had some difficulties, will now live in harmony as before, and endeavor to co-operate in promoting the common interests of the country. Mr. Reid has, I believe, likened me to a Socialist. I am a Socialist in the true sense of the word, and I think all our Socialists and political parties should unite in genuine Socialism, and their progress should be one in the paths of justice, honor, and truth. I think all political parties should unite in that political destiny, and all co-operate on the lines of justice, honor, and truth. That is my explanation of genuine Socialism. In private and in every family life a sort of Socialism exists. I believe in that Socialism that promotes a spirit of sacrifice, gentleness, and truth, and all should determine to endeavor to promote such genuine Socialism. That is what I mean by Socialism, and, therefore, we should all be Socialists, and no matter what difference there is amongst political parties, all should combine in a genuine Socialistic spirit. The way you are carrying on your work is genuine Socialism, for it marks out progress in the paths of justice and the true spirit of sacrifice, and I trust that that true Catholic Socialism will always prevail in this district.

Lorh Emly, who stood out so conspicuously in the House of Lords by reason of his remarkable pro-Catholic speech; is (says the "Pall Mall Gazette"), the only Nationalist in the Irish peerage. Yet he was once a Unionist of a most combative type. He struck many a blow in defence of his principles when as the Hon. Mr. Gaston Monsell he was member of the Local Board in Limerick. On his accession to the peerage he became a Nationalist.

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The Family Circle

THOSE WE LOVE BEST

They say the world is round, and yet
I often think it square;
So many little hurts we get
From corners here and there.
But one great truth in life I've found,
While journeying to the West,
The only folks who really wound
Are those we love the best.

The man you thoroughly despise
Can rouse your wrath, 'tis true;
Annoyance in your heart will rise
At things mere strangers do;
But those are only passing ills,
This rule all lives will prove:
The rankling wound which aches and thrills
Is dealt by hands we love.

The choicest garb, the sweetest grace
Are oft to strangers shown;
The careless mien, the frowning face
Are given to our own.
We flatter those we scarcely know;
We please the fleeting guest;
And deal full many a thoughtless blow
To those who love us best.

UNCLE JACK'S STORY

'Uncle Jack, please tell us a real wonder story!' cried Hal, throwing himself down on the steps beside his uncle.

'Just a little story about a bad boy,' lisped Lucy, snuggling up beside her brother.

Uncle Jack stretched himself a little lazily. 'Well, I don't believe I ever knew any bad boys, but I might tell you a bad story about a good boy.'

'Do.'

'Yes, do,' echoed Lucy.

Now Uncle Jack had told so many stories since breakfast that he had not many more ideas in his head, and so he felt a little like teasing the children. He began this way:

'Well, once there was a boy named Bommy Teggs. He lived—'

'Do you mean Tommy Beggs?' asked Hal, a little timidly.

'Why, yes, to be sure, I did get that wrong! Well, this boy Tommy started out one day to go to the village. He carried a ten-quart pail of milk in one hand and a hand-saw in the other. He went gaily along, whistling and throwing rocks at the fence posts—'

'Why, Uncle Jack, did he set his milk down every time?'

'Why, yes, yes, I think he must have done that. Well, he went along, looking off at the sea, that lay all behind him—'

'Wasn't it in front of him?' asked Lucy, eagerly.

'No, I think not; I said behind him. He kept one eye on the sea behind him and one at the long lane down which he was walking.'

'But—' began Hal; and then, not wishing to interrupt, he contented himself with trying to look back at the door and at the same time keep an eye on his uncle.

'As he went along down the street he saw something in a tree that caught his attention. It was a bird's nest. He shaded his eyes with the saw and saw the nest. "I must go up and look in that nest," he said. So he climbed up nimbly—'

'He set his milk down, didn't he?' asked Hal.

'Yes; but he kept his saw because he wanted to see.' Uncle Jack waited for the pair to laugh at this mild joke.

'He found that there were three eggs in the nest, and as he was rather a bad boy, he thought he would take them out, so he reached in the nest and took out the eggs, and began to come down the tree hand over hand.'

'But what did he do with the saw?' asked Lucy.

'And how could he hold the eggs and come down hand over hand?' asked Hal.

'That I don't know,' said Uncle Jack, seriously. 'It is strange that I cannot explain that to you. It must have been that he could see by means of the saw that he must hand over the eggs to his pocket. On thinking it over, I guess that was it.'

'Well, go on,' said the children.
'Well, he thought, he would like to give the eggs to his mother, so he set down the milk and the saw under the tree, and sat down beside them to watch that no one stole them while he was gone, and he ran back as quickly as he could down the lane—'

'But he was under the tree!' exclaimed Lucy, who was trying to help matters all she could. 'He could not run home while he was sitting there.'

Uncle Jack rose up on his elbows and looked at the children in astonishment. 'That is quite true,' he said thoughtfully. 'He could not have done it—and in that case it could not have happened, and thus—there is no story to tell, is there?' and Uncle Jack opened the magazine he was reading, as if that were quite the only way out of the difficulty. 'The children waited patiently.'

'But what about the bird's nest?' questioned Hal.

'Well, if the boy could not have done what I said, he could not have climbed the tree, and in that case there was no one to bring down the eggs, and so there could not have been any one to see the eggs in the tree, and thus we see that there was no one to see the eggs there, and so—well, it all seems to be very unlikely. In fact, I don't believe any of it, do you, now, on your honor?' Uncle Jack looked at them with smiling eyes.

'Let's play horse,' Lucy, said Hal.

'I'll be the horse,' said Lucy. 'Stories are silly.'

After this Uncle Jack, who was rather tired of stories, read his magazine comfortably.

IN THE WRONG PLACE

At a recent dinner Mark Twain made a most amusing little speech which was responded to as follows by a lawyer who was present. 'Doesn't it strike the company as a little unusual,' he inquired, 'that a professional humorist should be funny?' When the laugh that greeted this sally had subsided Mark Twain drawled out: 'Doesn't it strike the company as a little unusual that a lawyer should have his hands in his own pockets?'

IT DREW WELL

Walking along a road in Lanarkshire, two Americans on their holiday were passing one of those houses which in novels are called woodland cottages, but which are better known in the country as 'shanties.' The chimney of the house referred to was constructed of sticks and mortar, and possessed a spiral form, presenting a comical appearance. One of the tourists thus accosted a curly-haired youngster upon the fence: 'I say, my boy, does that chimney draw well?' 'Ah, gey weel,' was the reply. 'It draws the notice o' every fule that passes by!'

DEADLY MUSIC

At a performance of an amateur dramatic club an amusing incident occurred through the nervousness of one of the performers. It was the first performance of the amateur, and, in the course of the play, a very fine band of music was a leading feature, and on every side nothing but praise and flattery of the music was to be heard. In the third act the nervous young amateur, who was playing a minor part, was to rush on the stage, while the band was playing its sweetest, and cry: 'Stop the music; the king is dead!' The critical moment came, and the excited, highly strung amateur rushed in. 'Stop the music!' he cried. 'It has killed the king!'

JEFFERSON'S TEN RULES

Thomas Jefferson, who framed the Declaration of Independence and was the third President of the United States, also thought out these ten rules, which every one would do well to remember and practise:—

Never put off until to-morrow what you can do to-day.

Never trouble another for what you can do yourself.

Never spend money before you have earned it.

Never buy what you don't want because it is cheap.

Pride costs more than hunger, thirst, and cold.

We seldom repent having eaten too little.

Nothing is troublesome that we do willingly.

How much pain the evils have cost us that have never happened.

Take things away by the smooth handle.

When angry, count ten before you speak; if very angry, count a hundred.

IMPERTINENCE REBUKED

'You must find that impediment in your speech rather inconvenient at times, Mr. Biggs?'
'Oh, n-no; everybody has his peculiarity. Stammering is mine; what is yours?'
'Well, really, I am not aware that I have any.'
'D-do you stir y-your tea with your right hand?'
'Why, yes, of course.'
'W-well, that is y-your p-peculiarity; m-most p-people u-use a t-teaspoon.'

JUST IN TIME

A North Country miner, late one autumn, was imprisoned while at work by the fall of a huge block of coal.

With the greatest energy his friends set to work to liberate him. This, though, proved to be a task of enormous difficulty. On account of the position of the hole and the nature of the fall, it was three full days before they reached their comrade.

When finally a passage had been made the manager put in his head and called:

'Jack, how are ye?'
'All right,' was the reply. 'What day is it?'
'Monday.'
'Good. Then I'm in time for the dog show.'

ODDS AND ENDS

Lord Rutherford was sitting on the hillside with his old shepherd, and, observing that the sheep reposed in the coldest situation, he said to him: 'John, if I were a sheep I would lie on the other side of the hill.'
'Ah, my lord,' answered the candid shepherd, 'but if ye had been a sheep ye would hae had mair sense!'

A certain gentleman, when in London, boards at a lodging house, the landlady of which is very punctual in her attendance at the Sabbath services. For this reason she insists that her boarders must be down early for breakfast on Sunday morning. The gentleman, however, one Sunday came down late. 'You are late this morning, sir,' said the woman gently, but rather reprovingly. 'No, madam! I spent half-an-hour on my knees this morning—' 'That was very praiseworthy of you,' she said, smiling graciously. '—hunting for a collar stud that rolled upon the floor and under the chest of drawers,' he concluded.

FAMILY FUN

Here is a funny little feature called 'The Game of Nations.' It will serve to get the thinking cap on, and to furnish a half-hour's entertainment. On slips of paper to be given, each guest writes the questions, and when returned to the hostess with the correct answers they should be:

The nation from which we start? Germination.
The nation for teachers? Explanation.
The nation for pupils? Subordination.
The nation for actors? Impersonation.
The nation for theological students? Ordination.
The nation for a political candidate? Nomination.
The nation for an unpopular official? Resignation.
The nation for pests? Extermination.
The nation for evildoers? Condemnation.
The nation desired by monopolies? Combination.
The nation which indicates a class? Denomination.

If a man on the front of a fruit cart weighs 139 pounds, what does the man on the back weigh? The fruit.

What is the difference between a mouse and a young lady? One harms the cheese and the other charms the 'hes.'

Why is a young man engaged to a young girl like a person sailing for France? Because he's going to Havre (have her).

If a monkey wished to announce that he was sick, how could he do it and at the same time mention the medicine he wanted? 'Ape ill' (a pill).

What is it which the men that make it don't need, the man that buys it doesn't use for himself, and the person that uses it doesn't know it? A coffin.

Why is a sheet of paper like a lazy dog? A sheet of paper is an ink-lined plain (inclined plane), and an inclined plane is a slope up (slow pup), and a slow pup is a lazy dog.

All Sorts

In Italy only incomes of £18 a year or less are exempt from taxation. In Prussia the limit is £45.

An experiment has shown that 1000 tons of soot settle yearly on the 10 square miles of London's area.

Over sixty miles of tunnel have been cut out of the rock of Gibraltar.

No land animal is known to have naturally poisonous flesh. There are, however, several fish whose flesh is deadly.

Gibraltar is the smallest British possession. It measures less than two square miles. Canada is the biggest, with 3,746,000 square miles.

Never in the history of the English Parliament have the full number of members been present at one sitting.

Spain is ranked second in supplying the world with honey. Her bee-hives number over a million and a half.

In Russia an extensive domestic industry consists of the manufacture of wooden spoons, of which as many as 30,000,000 are made annually. They are nearly all of birch wood.

No other nation in the world owns so much absolutely useless territory as the British. Banks Land, Prince Albert Land, Victoria and Baffin Land, with hundreds of other Arctic islands and lands, are at present quite useless.

The world's supply of wood is decreasing rapidly. Coal, as a substitute, has not lessened the demand, and the many industries which use wood in great quantities, run the numbers of tons consumed annually into the millions.

He was a noble lord, and he was in an awful rage with one of his footmen. 'It is intolerable!' he exclaimed. 'Are you a fool or am I?' 'Oh, my lord,' replied James, with humility, 'I am sure you would not keep a servant who was a fool.'

'Yes,' said the emphatic lady; 'I tell you that women ought to enjoy the same rights as men.' 'The same rights, Matilda,' returned her husband. 'Do you mean that they should be tram conductors and policemen?' 'Certainly.' 'And soldiers?' 'By all means.' 'Then I am in favor of it. Don't you think you would like to enlist, Matilda?'

An elephant had a raging toothache, the agony of which caused her to nearly destroy her caravan. She was thrown on her side and roped to stakes. Two men held a pair of ice tongs fast round the aching tooth, and a couple of dray horses attached to the tongs by a rope did the rest. The tooth was sixteen inches long by three inches across.

The Japanese House of Representatives consists of 300 members, elected by ballot, each member receiving a salary. Its House of Peers consists of members of the royal family, princes and marquises, counts, viscounts, and barons elected as representatives of the several orders, and persons elected for seven years by and from the highest taxpayers in each city and prefecture.

How an American machinery agent secured an order in Japan is related as follows: It was a question of some lathes for a large factory which was being started. They were required of a certain size. The agent for a British firm said: 'That is three inches longer than they are made, and we can make no alteration.' 'The American said: 'I will make them to any size you like.' The American secured the order.

I found a week or two ago (says a Bible agent of Yung Ping Fu, Chihli Province, China), that our copies of the Scriptures were being surreptitiously bought from colporteurs on the streets and then employed in wrapping up copper coins, much in the same way that dollars are wrapped up by foreign banks. The reason for this is that Scriptures are sold much too cheaply; cheaper, indeed, than the commonest paper that can be purchased in China, and it seems that the Bible societies should agree together to raise the price somewhat. Better smaller sales than such wanton destruction of the Sacred Book. A large firm that had so used our books sent a written apology, undertook not to repeat the offence, and contributed the sum of twenty dollars in gold to the Government boys' school in Tientsin. In the settlement of this case, it is a pleasure to add that we are indebted in great measure to the Roman Catholic Bishop, to whom the offending business house appealed.

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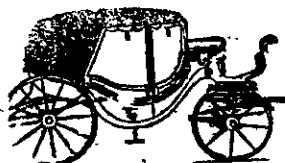
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OUR SCHOOLS

MARIST BROTHERS' SCHOOL, WELLINGTON

The annual distribution of prizes was made on Thursday evening, December 13, by His Grace the Archbishop, in St. Peter's Schoolroom. An enjoyable concert programme and a short dramatic entertainment was provided by the pupils. The following is the prize list:—

Civil Service Class, 1st Division:—G. Newton (dux), 1st bookkeeping and typewriting; W. Buckley, 2nd aggregate and geometry; V. Ross, 3rd aggregate and drawing; F. Cimino, reading, 2nd drawing; E. Ryan, writing and composition; A. Durney, orthography, 2nd arithmetic; G. Rooney, 2nd typewriting and history. Second Division, J. Devlin, 1st aggregate; P. Lawler, 2nd aggregate; D. McKivett, 3rd aggregate; B. Gallagher, diligence and history; A. Beswick, composition; L. Brookby, algebra.

Medallists.—Dux medal, and algebra (2), G. Newton; best solo, F. Ryan; good conduct and geometry (2), W. Buckley; Christian doctrine, P. Lawler; science, V. Ross; recitation, E. Reeves.

Standard VI.—General Proficiency—John Coleman 1, Joseph Coleman 2, J. Burko 3. Arithmetic—F. Foster 1, K. Johnston, R. Ready. Reading—R. Ready, McGrath, J. O'Brien, V. Haydon, F. Berge, R. Scott. Writing—P. Scanlon J. Smith, L. Pope, T. Devine, W. O'Neil. Orthography—L. Kearney. Christian Doctrine—W. Sullivan, F. Yourelle. Diligence—L. Daniel. Drawing—P. Scanlon. Freehand Drawing—P. Kennedy. Brushwork—A. McDonald, K. Johnson, A. Brevers. Composition—J. Smith, I. Whitaker. Geography—F. Yourelle, R. Scott. Home Exercise—W. Sullivan, I. Whitaker. Attendance—E. Bryne. Recitation—V. Haydon. Diligence—L. Daniel.

Standard V.—General Proficiency—C. Sheehy 1, A. Byron 2, H. Buckley 3. Christian Doctrine—C. Sheehy 1, H. Buckley 2. Good Conduct—E. Duggan 1, G. Marre 2. Attendance—G. Barrett 1, B. Benson 2. Reading—E. Reeves 1, J. McElligott 2. Orthography—B. Chapman 1, G. Swanston 2. Arithmetic—E. McCarthy 1, T. Foster 2. Writing—J. Ross 1, E. Newton 2. History—C. Gasquoine 1, D. Burke 2. Geography—J. Mackay 1, T. Blewman 2. English—E. Galvin 1, A. Chapman 2. Composition—P. Hopkins 1, C. Tandy 2. Application—C. Tandy 1, P. Hopkins 2. Freehand Drawing—C. Fennell 1, C. Hill 2.

Standard IV.—General Proficiency—D. O'Sullivan, F. O'Driscoll, E. Casey, S. O'Donovan, P. Stratford. Reading—D. O'Sullivan, C. O'Donoghue, H. Corrigan, A. Johnson, A. Hynes. Attendance—F. O'Driscoll. Christian Doctrine—F. O'Driscoll. E. Casey, P. Stratford. Good Conduct—E. Casey. Arithmetic—S. O'Donovan, F. Ryan, J. Boyce, J. Haughey. Geography—H. Corrigan. Orthography—H. Corrigan, D. Scott, W. Bowden. Writing—J. Whittman, F. Sullivan, S. Murphy, J. Maher. Drawing—A. Johnson, J. Maher, B. Matthews. Spelling—D. Welsh, G. McGrath, B. Matthews. Composition—A. Hynes, D. Welsh, G. McGrath. Mental Arithmetic—V. Mirahets, R. Mackay, A. Waller. Nature Study Lesson—F. Moore. Improvement—G. Sivers, D. McCarthy, and W. Lennon.

Standard III.—General Proficiency and Mental Arithmetic—O. Syron 1, W. O'Dea 2, L. Crigg, J. Cuming, and A. Newton (equal) 3. Arithmetic—G. Hanify 1, R. Scanlon 2, H. Hanify 3. Reading—J. Hyde 1, H. Wrixon 2, P. Bowzaid 3. Drawing—J. Tandy 1, A. Dibley 2, A. Sivers 3. English Composition—R. McGrath 1, W. Redmond 2, W. O'Sullivan 3. Grammar—J. McNurish 1. Christian Doctrine—D. McLaughlin 1, M. O'Shaughnessy 2, F. Fama 3. Good Conduct—J. McMahon 1, A. Hosey 2. Spelling—J. Hyland. Recitation—F. Archer 1, M. M'Artney 2. Homework—G. Fitzgerald. Net-making—G. Wynne 1, C. Carrigan 2. First Application—P. McMahon. Second Application—E. Prestidge. Writing—R. Laurent. Attendance—J. Keeney.

Standard II.—Proficiency—M. Kehoe. Catechism—M. Kehoe. Arithmetic—K. de Muth. Second Proficiency—K. de Muth. Third Proficiency—J. Curry. Reading—J. Curry. Spelling—J. Curry. Catechism—F. Reynolds. Arithmetic—F. Reynolds, J. Peter, A. Johnson, V. Blake, J. Neils. Recitation—A. O'Connor, F. Syron, A. Whittaker, M. McGlinchey, D. Breen, W. Quinn. Attendance—V. O'Dea. Writing—V. O'Dea. V. Blake, N. Bryant, J. Neils, A. McParland. Freehand Drawing—D. Corrigan. Spelling—J. Carrig, A. McParland. Writing—L. Ryan. Drawing—G. Seymour, A. Johnson, L. Tampion, D. Breen. Catechism—J. McClearey, L. Muir. Reading—F. Syron, A. O'Connor, G. Seymour, M. Brockie, A. Whittaker, M. McGlinchey, W. Quinn, A. O'Connor. Spelling—K. Smith. Writing—L. Muir. First Recitation—Finian O'Donovan. First for Tidiness—G. Davis. English Composition—K. Davis.

Standard I.—Proficiency—D. Haggerty 1, F. Heather 2. Arithmetic—D. Haggerty 1, El. Reaby 2, G. Hill 3. Spelling—F. Heather, V. Revell, F. Chapman. Good Conduct—H. Reaby, M. Elligott. Tables—A. Fennell, H. Dibley, L. Reaby. Writing—W. Ryan, K. Whittle, G. Jackson. Drawing—V. Revell, L. Reaby, G. Jackson. Reading—W. Ryan, C. McParland. Recitation—C. McParland. Mental Arithmetic—A. Fennell. Drill—V. Roberts.

ST. MARY'S CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL, AUCKLAND

The annual exhibition and distribution of prizes in connection with St. Mary's Convent took place on the evening of December 12. The hall, which was tastefully decorated, was crowded with the parents and friends of the pupils. Among those present were His Lordship Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan, Monsignor O'Reilly, Rev. Fathers Duffy, Molloy, and Williams. A musical programme of a very high class was creditably gone through, the duos and trios were admirably played, and Miss White in her piano solo displayed talent of a high order. The songs by Misses M. Kelly and A. Sarah were appreciated, while the harp solo by Miss J. Hutchinson was tastefully rendered. The National Anthem closed a very enjoyable entertainment, after which the visitors were invited to the Study Hall to inspect the work, consisting of paintings, plain and fancy needlework, dressmaking, and carving. The exhibits were much admired. The following is the prize list:—

Matriculation and Civil Service Class.—Misses W. Hipkins, aggregate marks; H. Mahoney, English and French; J. Amodeo, essay writing; K. Ralph, mathematics; G. Casey, mathematics; H. Anderson, arithmetic; K. Gleeson, science.

Class VII.—Misses A. McCaig, aggregate marks; K. McGovern, arithmetic and science; E. Maguire, geography and writing; M. Gallagher, science and arithmetic; E. Cullen, algebra and needlework; G. Frodsham, geography; W. Eddowes, essay writing; K. Taylor, writing and geography; K. Finnane, general proficiency.

Class VI.—Misses E. Foreman, aggregate marks; D. White, drawing and mapping; Q. Knock, arithmetic and reading; F. Histed, conduct and application; W. Webber, application; C. Gibbons, general proficiency; L. Bailey, general proficiency; D. McGarry, reading and needlework; W. Smith, general proficiency; E. O'Brien, science; M. Ryan, English.

Class V.—Misses G. Simmons, aggregate marks; H. Dalby, conduct and reading; C. Twomey, general proficiency; C. Gallagher, reading; E. Barns, needlework and general proficiency; Master A. Sneddon, geography.

Class IV.—Misses Rosie Ralph, aggregate marks; E. Dalby, arithmetic and writing; Madeline Tole, composition and history; M. Ralph, general proficiency; S. Fraser, arithmetic; C. Little, conduct and drawing; I. McGarry, writing; G. Wakefield, general proficiency; G. Tole, general proficiency; M. Raynes, writing; M. Lewis, history.

Class III.—Misses D. Sneddon, aggregate marks; I. Dalby, arithmetic; P. Darby, drawing and writing; D. Murphy, general proficiency; Rena Ralph, history; Master D. Malavey, conduct and drawing.

Class II.—Misses McVeigh, aggregate marks; G. Darby, arithmetic and reading; S. Ralph, general proficiency.

Class I.—Misses M. Hahn, aggregate marks; E. Lynch, reading; L. Harris, writing and recitation; N. McManus, recitation and reading; I. Noton, drawing and writing; N. Gray, general proficiency; Master A. Ralph, arithmetic.

Infant Reader.—Master M. Flynn, aggregate marks; Miss M. Casey, general proficiency; Miss E. White, reading and writing; Miss M. Stewart, arithmetic; Miss R. Haszard, general proficiency.

Preparatory Class.—Miss Y. McVeagh, general proficiency; Master B. Tole, conduct and arithmetic; Miss G. White, writing; Master E. Paltridge, general proficiency.

Gold Medals.—Miss K. Mahoney, day school; Miss M. Gallagher, boarding school, for conduct; Miss Queenie Knock, Christian doctrine; Miss J. Hutchinson, diligence; Miss N. Montague, music (senior honours); Miss A. Sarah, singing.

Special Prizes for Christian doctrine to Miss E. Maguire, D. Sneddon, S. Ralph, E. Lynch, N. McManus, M. Casey.

Music.—Misses J. Hutchinson, M. Kelly, J. Amodeo, K. Mahoney, E. Cullen, D. White, A. McCaig, G. Frodsham, L. Bailey, M. Gallagher, Mgt. Ralph, C. Gallagher, E. Barns.

French.—Misses J. Hutchinson, A. McCaig, G. Casey, F. Histed, S. Fraser, M. McVeagh, Masters A. Sneddon and Anthony Ralph.

Painting.—Misses L. Bailey and G. Frodsham.

Needlework.—Misses E. Foreman, Rosie Ralph, E. Dalby, M. Noton, E. Lynch.

Elocution.—Misses H. Dalby and G. Simmons.

Chip-Carving.—Misses E. Foreman and E. Barns.

Dressmaking.—Misses M. Kelly, K. McGovern, M. Gallagher.

Physical Culture.—Misses F. Histed and E. Dalby.

Special Prizes for Aggregate Marks in Boarding School.—Misses Stella Fraser and Patricia Darby.

Honourable mentions for music to Misses K. Ralph, W. Hipkins, K. Gleeson, K. McGovern, F. Histed, E. Gallagher, G. Gibbons, G. Simmons, H. Dalby, C. Twomey, R. Shirley, Rosie Ralph, E. Dalby, G. Wakefield, M. Raynes, Rena Ralph, D. and I. McGarry, I. Dalby, L. Gallagher, P. Darby, S. Ralph, G. Darby, M. McVeagh, E. Lynch, and L. Harria.

Honourable mentions for French to Misses D. White, M. Gallagher, M. Lewis.

Honourable mentions for etching to Misses A. McCaig and E. Cullen.

Honourable mentions for French to Misses M. Kelly, L. Bailey, and E. Gallagher.

Honourable mentions for bookkeeping to Misses K. Ralph and F. Histed.

ST. MARY'S PARISH SCHOOL, WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

This has been a week for the distribution of prizes—a week in which Catholics realise more than at any other time what they are doing in the matter of the education of their children, and what splendid work is being done by the members of the religious Orders that have the management and control of their schools. The reports of the teaching at the several schools under the charge of the Sisters of Mercy have been, as usual, good; and the entertainments that we see each year at these 'break-ups' are a strong testimony of the zeal and untiring efforts of the good Sisters for the children under their care. A pleasing feature of these gatherings was the large number of parents and friends that assembled to show their interest in the schools. The prize-winners are as follows:—

Good Conduct.—Senior Division: Silver medal, Cissie Dwyer; next in merit, Alice Maher; boys—prize, Philip Dee. Junior Division: Prize, Maggie Burns.

Christian Doctrine.—First Division: Gold medal, Mary Dimond; second in merit, Annie Park; boys—second in merit, Leo M'Alister. Second Division: Tottie Gibbs; Alice Maher and Eily Mulhane (equal in merit). 2. Third Division: Florrie Owen; next in merit, Myra Duggan. Fourth Division: Birdie Fitzgerald. Fifth Division: Mary Sheehy.

Standard VII.—Arithmetic and writing, Cissie Dwyer; arithmetic and English, Doris Cropp; composition, Annie Park; recitation, Doris Cropp and Annie Park; diligence, Cissie Dwyer; general improvement, Philip Dee.

Standard VI.—Diligence, Alice Maher; arithmetic, Wilfrid Blake; composition, Mary Savage and Frank Leydon; English, Willie Scrimgeour and Mary Dimond; reading, Leo M'Alister and Frank Leydon; writing, Evyleen Guilford; drawing, Michael Dee; needlework, Evyleen Guilford; regular attendance, Wilfrid Blake.

Standard V.—Arithmetic, Eily Mulhane and Lance Butcher; composition, Tottie Gibbs; diligence, Cyril Mulhane; recitation, Tottie Gibbs; English, Doris Nagle; reading, Mary Coffey; writing, Ida Mulhane; general improvement, Eileen Wareham.

Standard IV.—Arithmetic, Maggie Burns; spelling, Hazel Davis; reading, Jack Keegan; writing, Nellie Keegan; geography, Lizzie O'Gorman.

Standard III.—Arithmetic, Frank Dwyer and Emmet Mulhane; spelling, Dolly Rice; reading, Gerald Gibbs; writing, Maggie Myers; geography, George Dimond; composition, Birdie Fitzgerald; diligence, Frances Butcher.

Standard II.—Arithmetic, Daphne Davis and Hugh O'Sullivan; geography, Tommy Tiller; reading, Mabel Stapleton and Teresa Levin; spelling, Eva Burns; diligence, Monica Murphy; general improvement, May Quilici and Delia O'Gorman.

CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL, PONSONBY

The annual exhibition and distribution of prizes in connection with St. Mary's Convent High School, Ponsonby, took place on December 12. The hall, which was tastefully decorated, was crowded with the parents and friends of the pupils, among those present being the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan, Monsignor O'Reilly, Rev. Fathers Duffy, Molloy, and Williams. A high-class musical programme was creditably gone through, the duos and trios being admirably played. Miss D. White, in her piano solo, showed considerable musical ability. The choruses were sung with great sweetness, and showed very careful training. The songs by Misses M. Kelly and A. Sarah were deservedly applauded, and the harp solo by Miss J. Hutchinson was excellently rendered. After the entertainment the visitors assembled in the study hall, where the work, consisting of paintings, plain and fancy needlework, dressmaking, and carving, were on exhibition and were much admired. His Lordship presented the medals, certificates, and prizes as follows:—

Gold Medals.—Katie Mahoney (Day School), Mary Gallagher (Boarding School), for conduct; Queenie Knock, Christian doctrine; J. Hutchinson, diligence; N. Montague, music (senior honours); A. Sarah, singing.

Special Prizes for Christian Doctrine.—Elsie Maguire, Dorothy Sneddon, Sarah Ralph, Evie Lynch, Nora M'Manus, and Marie Casey.

Matriculation and Civil Service Class.—W. Hipkins, aggregate marks; K. Mahoney, English and French; J. Amodeo, essay writing; K. Ralph, mathematics; G. Casey, mathematics; K. Anderson, arithmetic; K. Gleeson, science.

Class VII.—A. M'Caig, aggregate marks; K. M'Govern, arithmetic and science; E. Maguire, geography and writing; M. Gallagher, science and arithmetic; E. Cullen, algebra and needlework; G. Frodsham, geography; W. Eddowes, essay writing; N. Montague, science and reading; K. Taylor, writing and geography; K. Finane, general proficiency.

Class VI.—E. Foreman, aggregate marks; D. White, drawing and mapping; Q. Knock, arithmetic and reading; F. Histed, conduct and application; D. Webber, general pro-

ficiency; C. Gibbons, application; L. Bailey, general proficiency; D. M'Garry, reading and needlework; W. Smith, general proficiency; E. O'Brien, science; M. Ryan, English.

Class V.—G. Simmons, aggregate marks; H. Dalby, conduct and reading; C. Twoomey, general proficiency; C. Gallagher, reading; E. Barnes, needlework and general proficiency; A. Sneddon, geography.

Class IV.—R. Ralph, aggregate marks; E. Dalby, arithmetic and writing; M. Tole, composition and history; M. Ralph, general proficiency; S. Fraser, arithmetic; R. Shirley, reading; C. Little, conduct and drawing; I. M'Garry, writing; G. Wakefield, general proficiency; G. Tole, general proficiency; M. Raynes, writing; M. Lewis, history.

Class III.—D. Sneddon, aggregate marks; I. Dalby, arithmetic; P. Darby, drawing and writing; M. Noton, arithmetic; L. Gallagher, reading; D. Murphy, general proficiency; R. Ralph, history; D. Malavey, conduct and drawing.

Class II.—M. M'Veagh, aggregate marks; G. Darby, arithmetic and reading; S. Ralph, general proficiency.

Class I.—M. Hahn, aggregate marks; E. Lynch, reading; L. Harris, writing and recitation; N. M'Manus, recitation and reading; I. Noton, drawing and writing; W. Gray, general proficiency; A. Ralph, arithmetic.

Music.—J. Amodeo, J. Hutchinson, M. Kelly, K. Mahoney, E. Cullen, D. White, A. M'Caig, G. Frodsham, M. Gallagher, L. Bailey, Margaret Ralph, C. Gallagher, E. Barnes.

French.—J. Hutchinson, A. M'Caig, G. Casey, F. Histed, S. Fraser, M. M'Veagh, A. Sneddon, A. Ralph.

Painting.—L. Bailey, G. Frodsham. Needlework.—E. Foreman, R. Ralph, E. Dalby, M. Noton, E. Lynch.

Elocution.—H. Dalby, G. Simmons.

Chip Carving.—E. Foreman, E. Barnes.

Dressmaking.—M. Kelly, K. M'Govern, M. Gallagher.

Physical Culture.—F. Histed, E. Dalby.

Special Prizes for Aggregate Marks in Boarding School.—

S. Fraser, P. Darby.

Honorable Mentions for Music.—K. Ralph, W. Hipkins, K. Gleeson, K. M'Govern, Flo Histed, E. Gallagher, C. Gibbons, G. Simmons, H. Dalby, C. Twoomey, R. Shirley, R. Ralph, E. Dalby, G. Wakefield, M. Raynes, R. Ralph, D. and I. M'Garry, I. Dalby, P. Darby, L. Gallagher, S. Ralph, G. Darby, M. M'Veagh, E. Lynch, L. Harris.

Honorable Mentions for French.—D. White, M. Gallagher, G. Simmons, M. Lewis.

Honorable Mentions for Etching.—A. M'Caig, E. Cullen. Honorable Mentions for Elocution.—M. Kelly, L. Bailey, E. Gallagher.

Honorable Mentions for Bookkeeping.—K. Ralph, F. Histed.

ST. MARY'S CONVENT SELECT SCHOOL, WANGANUI

The Opera House, Wanganui, was crowded with an appreciative audience on the occasion of the annual breaking-up entertainment by the pupils of St. Mary's Convent Select School. The first part of the programme was made up of choruses, piano and vocal solos, which were capitally rendered. 'Queen Mab and the Fairies' was very pretty indeed, and deserved the hearty encore it received. 'The Last Rose of Summer,' with humming accompaniment, was also very nice. It would be hardly fair to pick out any individual young lady; suffice it to say that every one did splendidly, and the unstinted applause from the large audience was well deserved. During the evening the orchestra, under Mr J. L. Beck, gave some fine selections, as well as accompanying several of the various items. The second part of the programme consisted of a play entitled 'Lady Emmeline Hargrave; or, The Witch of Bramble Hollow.' The various young people who took part deserve great praise for the fine delivery of their lines. At the conclusion of the entertainment the Very Rev. Dean Grogan thanked all present on behalf of the Sisters, also the young people who had given such a pleasant evening, and asked Mrs Mackay (Mayoress) to present the prizes. The following was the programme:—Chorus (with orchestra), 'Away, Away,' senior girls; 'Scherzo and Trio' (Schubert), Miss A. Sullivan; vocal solo, 'Irish Lullaby,' Miss J. Lloyd; chorus, 'There's a Sweet Wild Rose,' St. Joseph's pupils; vocal selection, 'The Slave Song,' Miss A. Sullivan; violin selection, 'Minuet and Trio' (Mozart's Symphony); Masters H. Hunt and G. Smithies, Misses M. Power, I. Olberg, and L. Swan; vocal solo, 'Sunshine and Rain,' Miss M. King; chorus, 'Has Sorrow Thy Young Days Shaded,' senior girls; vocal solo, 'Samson and Delila,' Miss D. Carroll; piano solo, 'Papillons,' Miss R. Perrett; drill, Infants' Select High School; vocal solo, 'Out on the Rocks,' Miss Wallace; chorus, 'The Last Rose of Summer' (Moore), senior girls; chorus, 'Good Night, Beloved,' senior pupils; piano solo, Miss L. Shanly. The following took part in the play:—Misses Skinner, J. Lloyd, L. Shanley, A. Sullivan, N. Duffy, M. King, M. Gerrigan, H. Wood, M. Herlihy, A. O'Sullivan, M. Mahony, E. M'Kenna, F. Manson, E. Quinlivan, M. O'Brien, R. Punch, V. Neylon, L. Riddell, and G. Hearn.

The following is the prize list:—

Amiability Crown (chosen by votes of companions).—Miss M. Old (medal, gift of Rev. Father Mahony).

Dux (gold medal, Archbishop's prize).—Miss Ella Mahony.

Good Conduct (gold medal).—Miss Krina Morgan.

Christian Doctrine (gold medal, gift of Convent).—Miss M. Kerrigan, Miss M. Loftus.

Matriculation Class (gold medal).—Miss J. Lloyd.

Civil Service Class (gold medal).—Withheld until results are out.
 Gymnastics (gold medal, gift of Rev. Father O'Sullivan).—Miss N. Duffy.
 Neatness (gift of his Worship the Mayor).—Miss M. Loftus.
 Singing (gold medal, gift of Mr Greenwood).—Miss A. Sullivan 1; Misses M. King and J. Lloyd 2.
 Pianoforte (gold medal).—Miss Lucy Shanly 1, Miss M. Mahoney 2, Miss A. Sullivan 3.
 Junior Division.—Violin: Miss A. O'Sullivan.
 Primary Division.—Violin: Miss M. Power 1, Miss I. Olberg 2.
 Piano.—Miss Ethne Swan.
 Musical Knowledge (Theory).—Miss Lucy Shanly 1, Miss Mary Keane 2.
 Primary Division.—Misses O. Oldberg and Eileen M'Kenna (equal).
 Fancy Work.—Miss Krina Morgan 1, Miss Mary Keane 2, Miss May Old 3, Miss Phyllis Clapham honourable mention.
 Drawn-thread Work.—Miss Phyllis Clapham.
 Plain Sewing.—Miss Flossie Manson 1, Miss Agnes Hogan 2, Miss Eileen Carvel 3.
 House Prize (gift of Mrs Gellatley).—Miss M. Old.
 Painting.—Oils: Miss Wallace 1, Miss Phyllis Clapham 2, Misses A. Sullivan and H. Wood 3, Miss A. O'Sullivan honourable mention. Water colours: Miss Phyllis Clapham.
 Drawing.—Miss Wallace.
 Attendance.—Miss Irene Esau.
 Shorthand and Typewriting.—Miss A. Sullivan 1, Miss M. Skinner 2, Miss H. Wood 3.

Matriculation and Civil Service Class (Preparatory).—French (1), English (2), geography (1), essay writing (2), literature (2), dictation (3), drawing (1)—Miss Lucy Shanly; Latin (1), English (1), French (2), mathematics (3), literature (1), essay writing (3), dictation (2)—Miss Mabel Loftus; French (3), mathematics (2), bookkeeping (1)—Miss M. Malone; science (1), geography (2), Latin (2)—Miss Maggie Kerrigan; essay writing (1), mathematics (1)—Miss Mabel Mahoney; science (3), Latin (3), dictation (1)—Miss Mary Keane; bookkeeping (2), geography (3), literature (3)—Miss Nellie Duffy.

Diligence.—Miss Neila D'O.
 Form II.—English (1), bookkeeping (1), geography (1), mathematics (2)—Miss M. Mullins; English (2), reading (1), essay writing (2), mathematics (1), dictation (1), recitation (1)—Miss Krina Morgan; dictation (2), geography (2), bookkeeping (2), English (3), mathematics (3)—Miss Eileen M'Kenna; essay writing (1), geography (3), science (2), recitation (2)—Miss Olive Olberg; bookkeeping (3), science (1)—Miss Martina Fookes; essay writing (3), reading (2), writing (1)—Miss Gertie Hearn; science (3), French (1)—Miss Daisy Carlton; French (3)—Miss Rosy Punch; reading (3)—Miss Bessie Bates; general improvement—Annie Kiely and Queenie Perrett.

Form III.—English (1), dictation (1), reading (3), recitation (3), writing (1), essay writing (2)—Miss Ethel Parker; essay writing (1), English (3), science (1), recitation (2)—Miss O. Corliss; arithmetic (1), English (2), dictation (2)—Miss Agnes Smith; geography (1), arithmetic (2), essay writing (3)—Miss Freda Scales; reading (1), writing (2)—Miss Mary Mahoney; arithmetic (3), recitation (1), geography (2)—Miss Kathleen Holmes; reading (2)—Miss Ivy Olberg; writing (3)—Miss Eileen Carvell; geography (3)—Miss Annie Kelley; general improvement—Misses Olive Feers and Norah Atkinson.

Form IV.—Arithmetic (1)—Miss Mary Power; English (1), composition (1), recitation (1), geography (2), reading (1)—Miss Ethne Swan; writing (1), geography (1), composition (2), recitation (2)—Miss Muriel Swan; arithmetic (2), writing (2), geography (2)—Miss May Old; composition (3), reading (2), writing (3)—Miss Eileen Quinlivan; reading (3), recitation (3)—Miss Kathleen Neylon; general improvement—Misses Irene Esau, Dorothy Batkin, and Mira Mahoney.

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL.

Catechism.—Teresa Quirke 1, Kathleen Hogan 2.
 Conduct.—Rosa Kay.
 Singing.—Eileen M'Guire.
 Attendance.—Eileen O'Neil 1, Edith Morgan 2.
 Drill.—Imelda Mahoney.
 Lessons.—Standard VI: Leila O'Brien 1, Gertrude Greener 2, Rosa Kay 3. Standard V: Katie M'Manus 1, Jennie M'Nair 2, Bella M'Lean 3. Standard IV: Ethel Eastbury 1, Kathleen Boyle 2, Lizzie O'Connor 3. Standard III: Dorothy Boyle 1, Teresa Holmes 2, Isabel Hall 3.
 Nature Study.—Ivy Tilley.
 Brush Work.—Cecelia M'Lean.

ST. ANNE'S SCHOOL, NEWTOWN

Standard VI.—Christian doctrine, (boys) Harry M'Kay, (girls) Nora O'Neill; attendance, (boys) Frank M'Donald, (girls) Fanny Hickey; proficiency, Harry M'Kay.
 Standard V.—Proficiency, (boys) William Rouse, (girls) Bessie Delaney; attendance, Mary Hourahan.
 Standard IV.—Proficiency, (boys) Jack Molloy, (girls) Gerty Drury; attendance, Willie Flanagan.
 Standard III.—Proficiency, (boys) Joseph O'Neill, (girls) Eileen Twomey; attendance, Mary Cotter.
 School Singing.—Girls—Fanny Hickey; boys (equal in merit)—Harry M'Kay, Ernest Lee, Fergus O'Sullivan.

MARIST BROTHERS' SCHOOL, CHRISTCHURCH

On December 16 the Very Rev. Father Le Manant des Chesnais, V.G., presided at the distribution of prizes at the Marist Brothers' School, Barbadoes street. He spoke very favourably of the progress and demeanour of the boys, and advised them to continue in after life the efforts that had proved fruitful so far. The following is the list of prize-winners:—

Civil Service.—Aggregate merit—J. Steinmetz 1 and silver medal, J. Walsh 2, F. Ruck 3. Christian doctrine—J. Walsh 1, J. Steinmetz 2. English—J. Walsh 1, F. Ruck 2. English essay—J. Walsh 1, J. Steinmetz 2. French—J. Steinmetz 1, J. Walsh 2. Science—J. Steinmetz 1, J. Walsh 2. Arithmetic—J. Steinmetz 1, J. M'Keefry 2.

Sub-Civil Service.—Aggregate—M. M'Keefry 1 and silver medal, R. Boswell 2. Christian doctrine—M. M'Keefry 1, R. Boswell 2. English—M. M'Keefry 1, R. Boswell 2. French—R. Boswell 1, M. M'Keefry 2. Arithmetic—R. Boswell 1, M. M'Keefry 2.

Standard VI.—Aggregate merit—A. M'Greale 1 and silver medal, A. M'Donald 2, E. O'Brien 3. Christian doctrine—A. M'Greale 1, W. Dwyer 2. English—W. Mullins 1, J. M'Keefry 2. English essay—E. O'Brien 1, A. M'Greale 2. Arithmetic—J. M'Keefry 1, A. M'Donald 2. Geography—A. M'Greale 1, W. Thorn 2. Writing—D. Higgins 1, A. M'Donald 2. Drawing—W. Mullins 1, E. O'Brien 2.

Standards IV and V.—Good conduct—Bert Mahon 1, Fred Wayne 2. Attendance—Reg Keller 1, E. Brosnahan 2.

Standard V.—Christian doctrine—E. Brosnahan 1, J. M'Aloon 2. Aggregate—Henry M'Kearney 1, K. Boswell 2, J. M'Aloon 3. Arithmetic—Henry M'Kearney 1, K. Boswell 2. Reading—J. Horgan 1, Henry M'Kearney 2. Composition—B. Murphy 1, Henry Mullins 2. Dictation—M. Riordan 1, K. Boswell 2. Mental arithmetic—J. Foster 1, Charles M'Swigan 2. Geography—Dave Murray 1, Bert Khouri 2. Grammar—B. Murphy 1, Bert Mahon 2. Poetry—Bert Khouri 1, M. Riordan 2. Writing—Percy Mahon 1, E. Brosnahan 2. Drawing—Eric Plank 1, Charles M'Swigan 2.

Standard IV.—Christian doctrine—Dave Kenny 1, Donald Evans 2. Aggregate—R. Grant 1, C. M'Greale 2, A. M'Donald 3. Arithmetic—J. Cronin 1, W. Brosnahan 2. Reading—D. Evans 1, W. Gregory 2. Composition—L. Barrett 1, F. Wayne 2. Dictation—J. Higgins 1, Roy Barrett 2. Mental arithmetic—G. Bowden 1, L. M'Gee 2. Geography—D. Campbell 1, R. Evans 2. Grammar—L. Elvey 1, M. Pope 2. Poetry—W. Hannan 1, R. Grant 2. Writing—M. Murrane 1, W. Sutton 2. Drawing—L. M'Keefry 1, C. Courtney 2.

Standard III.—Christian doctrine—James Darragh 1, Patrick Dowd 2. Aggregate—Peter Greenlees 1, Phillip Foster 2, Charles Williams 3. Arithmetic—Terence Gee 1, Charles Williams 2. Reading—Joseph Dowd 1, Peter Greenlees 2. Writing—Peter Greenlees 1, Henry Close 2. Composition—Henry Close 1, Charles Williams 2. Geography—Thomas Lilley 1, Charles Williams 2.

Standard II.—Christian doctrine—Mortimer Reddington 1, William Bagley 2. Good conduct—William Grantham. Aggregate—Ferdinand Duffy 1, Bernard Dobbs 2, Leo Brosnahan 3. Arithmetic—Stanley Elliott 1, Hugh Cahill 2. Reading—William Bagley 1, Ferdinand Duffy 2. Writing—Hugh Cahill 1, Ferdinand Duffy 2. Composition—Cyril Mills 1, Herbert Lilley 2. Mental arithmetic—Patrick Reardon 1, Stanley Elliott 2.

Standard I.—Good conduct—Henry Kennedy. Catechism—John Young. Attendance—William Harrington. Aggregate—Owen M'Aloon 1, Peter Bennett 2, J. Dunn 3. Arithmetic—Cecil Dwyer 1, Bernard Williams 2. Reading—Herbert Jones 1, Wilfrid Dowd 2. Writing—John O'Malley 1, Bernard Flood 2. Drawing—Bernard Williams 1, John Dunn 2. Spelling—James Sweeney.

Class P.—Catechism—Francis O'Connor. Aggregate—John Gibbs 1, Francis O'Brien 2, M. Nolan 3. Reading—M. Nolan 1. Writing—Edward Milligan. Arithmetic—Stephen Foster.

ST. JOSEPH'S SCHOOL, PORT CHALMERS

The annual prize-giving in connection with St. Joseph's School, Port Chalmers, took place on December 21 in the presence of a fair gathering of parents and friends. The prizes were distributed by the Rev. Father Hearn, who expressed his sorrow at the absence of so many pupils, who were unable to attend their annual function on account of measles, which has laid a heavy hand on the pupils of late. For this reason the teachers had been unable to entertain them with the usual display in connection with the break-up, consequently his duties were confined to the presentation of prizes. He strongly urged the pupils to maintain the reputation of the school and exemplify the precepts of their teachers during the vacation by exhibiting kindness and good behaviour generally during the holidays, as well as at other times. He congratulated the teachers on the good work they had accomplished during the year, and also the pupils for their diligence in school. The following is the prize list:—

Standard II.—General proficiency, A. Albertson; reading, M. Birkner; spelling, A. Cabrel; good conduct and application, N. Varney; writing, M. Healy; drawing, J. Smith.

Standard III.—General proficiency, J. Flynn; composition, Jessie Flynn; arithmetic, G. Amalfitane; reading, R. Cabrel; drawing, A. Varney; application, C. Amalfitane.

Standard IV.—General proficiency and drawing, F. Neill; reading and arithmetic, T. Mackie; arithmetic, J. Moir; composition, F. Varney; singing and elocution, S. Carey; application, Ludwig Lippart; attendance, W. Scott.

Typewriting and bookkeeping, W. Hart; reading, May O'Hallaren; singing, Hazel Simpson; recitation, Eileen Mackie; drawing, H. Clark; writing, J. Garrett; attendance, H. Flynn; recitation, N. Johnson; punctuality, N. Hardy; singing, V. Birkner; politeness, Ida Johnson; spelling, Eileen Cabrel; tidiness, Lily Percy; Christian doctrine, N. Albertson; sewing, M. Montgomery; good conduct, L. Anderson; reading, Alma Waltredrof; tables, H. Varney. Kindergarten: N. Montgomery, M. Handisides, P. Garrett, B. Albertson, E. Smith, L. Smith. Special prize for attendance at Sunday school, W. Mead; music, N. Varney; attendance medals—W. Hart, L. Osborn, J. Moir; good conduct and shorthand, W. Hart; good conduct and general proficiency, L. Osborn; attendance and good conduct, W. Mead.

PETONE SCHOOL

Good conduct: Senior pupils—James Hickey (silver medal) 1, John Engel 2; Second Division—L. Rouse. Christian doctrine: First Division—Alice Tory (medal) 1, Claude Cox 2, Doris Moore 3; Second Division—C. Levey and H. Galvin (equal in merit) 1; Third Division—S. Scrimshaw 1, W. Coles 2, B. Gough 3. Regular attendance: First Division—Alice Tory, S. Bolton; Second Division—Alfred Frost, C. Tory, Basil Ryder. Drill: Girls—Margaret Martin (medal) 1, Q. McArthur 2; boys—J. Hickey (medal) 1, Willie Hickey 2. Music: Willie Coles.

ST. JOSEPH'S CONVENT SCHOOL, NEWTOWN

Good conduct (silver medal), Elizabeth Kruse; Christian doctrine (silver medal), Josephine Keogh; dux (silver medal), Elizabeth Kruse; music (silver medal), Mabel Fownes; Latin (gold cross), Elizabeth Kruse; painting, Mabel Fownes; music, Annie Flanagan; assiduity and improvement (First Division), Ellen Maher. Music: Second Division—Grace Nelson 1, Teresa Flanagan 2; Third Division—Berenice Eggers 1, Joyce Eggers 2. Clavier, Gladys Foote; wood-carving—Violet Beveridge 1, Jack Heavey 2; needlework—Violet Beveridge 1, Jane Clark 2, Myrtle Wylie 3; school singing, Elsie Strickland; physical drill—Elizabeth Kruse 1, Elsie Strickland 2, Myrtle Wylie and Hilda Laurenson 3.

Standard VII.—Scripture knowledge—Violet Beveridge 1, Frances Delaney 2; literature, composition, arithmetic, and drawing, Elizabeth Kruse; geography and physiology, Violet Beveridge; arithmetic (second prize), literature (second prize), Mary Delaney; brushwork and writing (first prize), composition (second prize), Latin (second prize), Frances Delaney.

Standard VI.—Reading and arithmetic, Josephine Keogh; English and composition, Eileen Lavery; literature, brushwork, and physiology, Elizabeth Jamieson; geography, drawing, writing, Jane Clark; spelling, Elsie Strickland; general improvement, Elizabeth Campbell.

Standard V.—Good conduct, Myrtle Wylie; Christian doctrine, arithmetic, spelling and physiology, Louis Becker; French, recitation, and brushwork, Myrtle Wylie; English, composition, writing, reading, Nature study, Hilda Laurenson; drawing (equal in merit), Hilda Laurenson and Louis Becker.

Second Division.—Composition, arithmetic, drawing, and brushwork, Victor Becker.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL, WELLINGTON

Special Prizes.—Good conduct, senior division, silver medal (gift of Rev. Father O'Shea), Susan Forbes; good conduct, junior division, Beatrice Levy; Christian doctrine (gift of Rev. Father Kimbell), Alice Cashman; highest marks, Kathleen Jansen; regular attendance, senior division, Alice Cashman; regular attendance, junior division, Olive Roseingrave; needlework, senior division, Violet Ruddy; needlework, junior division, Winifred Davis.

Class Prizes.—Standard VII: Christian doctrine, Mary M'Grath; diligence, Kathleen Jansen. Standard VI: Christian doctrine, Mabel Outtrim; diligence, Lena Fraser; composition, Florence Coleman; arithmetic, Kathleen Murphy; reading, Violet Davis; writing, Mary Casey. Standard V: Christian doctrine, Tottie Smith; diligence, Elizabeth Coleman; composition, Eileen Aarnott; arithmetic, Vera Somes; reading, Eileen O'Brien; spelling, Jennie Moffitt; writing, Eileen Clisby; neat work, Violet Clarke; general improvement, Mary Farabochia. Standard IV: Christian doctrine, Katie M'Mahon; highest marks, Nora Devlin; diligence, Doris Shackleford; arithmetic, Wilhomina Kruce; writing, Nellie Smith; general improvement, Beatrice M'Naughton. Standard III: Christian doctrine, Elsie Leary; diligence, May Butler; reading, Irene Jansen; neat work, Eunice Fraser; general improvement, Beatrice Dorgan. Standard II: Christian doctrine, May Moran; diligence, May Patton; regular attendance, Mary Milesi; reading, Marie M'Kenzie; writing, Imelda Fama. Standard I: Christian doctrine, Reta Westwood; diligence, Winnie Chaney; regular attendance, Agnes Ward.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER'S ACADEMY, WELLINGTON

The following is the prize list:—

Good Conduct.—Boarders—Stasia Ryan; day scholars—Minnie Duff; first year—M. Lawlor, Conny Thompson. Amiability, Davidina Laing; general satisfaction, Ethel Williams.

Religious Knowledge.—Seniors—S. Ryan, M. Lawlor, Eva Brebner; juniors—Muriel Kent, Zillah Lucas.

Matriculation Class.—General proficiency (gift of Mr C. P. Skerrett), Minnie Duff. Second Class: English grammar and composition—Doris Thompson 1, Stasia Ryan 2 (gifts of Dr Cahill); history and geography—Magdalen Lawlor 1, D. Thompson and S. Ryan 2 (gifts of Dr Cahill). Physiology: First Division—S. Ryan 1, M. Lawlor 2; Second Division—Nelly Thomson 1, E. Williams and D. Marshall 2. Arithmetic and algebra: First Division—Stasia Ryan 1, D. Thomson 2 (gifts of Mr C. P. Skerrett); Second Division—E. Williams 1, D. Laing 2. French language—Doris Thompson and E. Williams 1, Stasia Ryan 2. French conversation—Nelly Thomson.

Class II.—English composition—C. Thompson. English grammar—L. Laing. History and geography—C. Thompson. Good examination work—Alice Ross. Arithmetic: First Division—Ada Grigg; Second Division—C. Thompson. French language—D. Marshall 1, C. Thompson 2.

Music.—Theory (Trinity College): Senior—Minnie Duff; intermediate—Stasia Ryan; junior honours—Magdalen Lawlor; junior pass—Daisy Marshall; elementary—Dorothy Bowie. Practical (Higher Trinity College): N. Thomson and Ruth Howe 1, S. Ryan and E. Williams 2; intermediate (Royal Academy)—M. Lawlor; elementary—D. Bowie.

Oil Painting.—L. Laing (gift of Miss Ahern) 1, Nora Everard 2.

Wood-carving.—Eva Brebner (gift of Miss N. Skerrett) 1, D. Laing 2.

Needlework.—Ethel Williams 1, D. Laing, S. Ryan, and N. Thomson 2. Juniors: Muriel Paul, Winnie Paul.

Preparatory Class "D."—English composition, Dorothy Bowie; English grammar, Nada Burch; good examination marks, Amy Rivers.

Preparatory Class "C."—Reading, Muriel Kent; English grammar, Eva Thomson; spelling, Neville Taine; writing, Trevor Taine; music, Eva Thomson.

Preparatory Class "B."—Writing, Perree Carpenter; reading, Z. Lucas.

Christmas in France

As we moved along the road on Christmas eve, in the fearful silence of night in the country (says a writer in an American magazine), the church bell was sounding, and we stepped rather gingerly passing into the churchyard among the graves, half-expecting wraiths to arise from the sod and join us—a straggling quiet few who were coming, some to worship, others merely curious, to wonder why we worship Christ at the birth of Christmas Day.

Monsieur and Madame X. had bidden almost everybody in attendance upon the midnight Mass to partake of their hospitality. What an 'awakening' it was! Entering the door, we found ourselves in the great room which, combination dining-room and living-room, to-night was occupied from end to end by the long table that was gay with candles and holly and loaded with good things to eat—the most exquisitely browned baked ham, roast chickens—unlike any ever seen in the United States,—crisp salads—as beautiful as toothsome, cake, fruit, bonbons, wine. At each plate was an original menu card and some dainty small gift—nothing of value to make one groan under an obligation, but an offering pure and simple of good-will.

After much gaiety expressed over our gifts and the personal references which each card bore, we were placed at table. At the head sat the host and hostess, side by side, and at the opposite end the two children of the family, a boy aged twelve and a girl ten. The cure was there, beaming with satisfaction. The Mayor was present, wearing the insignia of his office, a red, white and blue sash about his waist, as he does upon all possible occasions, at once to honor the occasion and define the honor due to him. After supper we all went up-stairs to the studio—our host is also an artist-painter—and there we drank coffee about a Christmas tree which, brilliantly lighted, was not to be hung with gifts till a day later in the week. All the days of the time between Christmas and the Feast of the Epiphany are equally days for Christmas trees and gift-giving among the French.

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....