## Intercolonial

The membership of the Cathedral Club, Melbourne, stands now at 229.

On Sunday, September 26, the Very Rev. Dean Phelan, V.G., blessed the new presbytery at St. Brendan's, Flemington. The cost of site and building is about £4500.

The Right Rev. Dr. Dunne, Bishop of Wilcannia, blessed and opened a new church at Carinda on Sunday, September 13. The cost was over £500, and it was opened free of debt.

The Sisters of St. Joseph in the Diocese of Maitland will celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of their coming to the diocese in December next.

The Right Rev. Dr. Corbett, Bishop of Sale, has made the following clerical changes in the diocese:—Rev. Father Mac-Mahon, of Cowwarr, has been appointed assistant priest at Yarram; Rev. Father Buckley, of Bairnsdale, assistant priest at Cowwarr, and the Rev. Father Hurley, who recently returned from a holiday trip to Ireland, has been appointed assistant priest at Bairnsdale.

The Queensland Minister of Lands, in the course of an address at a public meeting recently, said that he had concluded arrangements with a company or syndicate who proposed to obtain alcohol from the grass tree. Mr. Bell added that he had let them have some 400 miles of country, about 100 miles wide, along the coast, commencing at Caboolture. The alcohol is not to be used for human consumption. The representatives of the syndicate are expected to shortly make a proposal to extract the alcohol from the prickly-pear, and use it as fuel.

The Very Rev. Father Sturzo, S.J., passed away at Loyola, Greenwich, on September 17, at the age of 82 years. The deceased was a native of Sicily, and had been received into the Order nearly 68 years ago. After the troubles in Italy in 1860, Father Sturzo and other members of the Society of Jesus proceeded to Ireland, and in 1865 he was made master of novices of the Irish province. In 1877 Father Sturzo was made Provincial of Ireland, a further proof of the trust reposed in him; in 1881 he was Rector of Tullabeg College, with Father William Delaney, now Rector of University College, Dublin, as Prefect of Studies. In 1883 he was ordered to Australia as Superior of the mission, and shortly after his arrival he opened the novitiate, and on ceasing to be Superior in 1886 he remained master of novices till 1901.

The death is reported of the Very Rev. Thomas Guilfoyle, Adm., St. Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat, who passed away at his sister's residence, Portland, at the early age of 48 years. The deceased was a native of Portland, where his father and mother were old and respected residents, and came from the County Tipperary. Father Guilfoyle received his early education at St. Patrick's College, Melbourne, and afterwards at the Jesuits' College, Seven Hills, South Australia. He was educated for the priesthood at Manly College, and was ordained by the late Bishop, Dr. Moore, in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Ballarat, in 1885, being the first priest ordained by the deceased The Ballarat Star, in its obituary of Father Guilfoyle, says: 'Many anecdotes are related as showing the simple character and charitable disposition of the deceased clergyman. Many years ago in Stawell he was given a buggy and pair of ponies. He drove about in the trap for a while, but later on it was noticed that he was doing all his visiting on foot. When asked what he had done with the turnout, he replied, "Oh, I got hard up and sold them." Careful enquiry elsewhere elicited the fact that he had spent all the money received by the sale among the poor of Stawell. While he was in Ballarat a friend noticed him one cold, wet day walking along the street without an overcoat. He presented Father Guilfoyle with a new overcoat. Shortly afterwards he met him minus the coat, and asked him where it was. "Oh," was the reply, "I can do without it all right. I met a poor chap who wanted it more than I did, and I gave it to him."

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## Science Siftings

BY 'VOLT

The First Matches.

The first sulphur matches, now upwards of a century old, appear very awkward according to our modern ideas of convenience. They were known as 'spunks' and varied in length from five to seven inches. These were generally packed in bundles of a dozen tied together with bits of straw. Some that were made in 1830 are now preserved in York Museum. They were even less satisfactory than they appear, since the sulphur refused to strike fire.

Boiling-point of Water.

Water boils at different temperatures, according to the elevation above the sea-level. In London water boils practically at 212 degrees Fahrenheit; in Munich, Germany, at 2001 degrees; in the City of Mexico, at 200 degrees, and in the Himalayas, at an elevation of 18,000 feet above the level of the sea, at 180 degrees. These differences are caused by the varying pressure of the atmosphere at these points. In London the whole weight of the air has to be overcome. In Mexico, 7000 feet above the sea, there is 7000 feet less of atmosphere to be resisted; consequently less heat is required, and boiling takes place at a lower temperature.

-Windmill Churn.

Butter is made in a variety of ways, by hand power, steam power, even dog power; but it is safe to say that the churn herewith described is entirely a labor-saving device. The laborious old hand churn has been replaced among many enterprising farmers by a patent churn run by a dog treadmill. In the great modern dairies the butter is churned by the ton by steam or electricity. The windmill churn, in actual use in some parts of Holland, is at once a very simple and an inexpensive solution of the problem. The milk is placed in a jar or similar vessel, which is enclosed in a box, which in turn-is fixed to the axle of the windmill. The wind, of course, does the churning, and the faster the wind blows the quicker will the butter appear.

Queer Positions of Hearts.

There is one curious fact which not everybody notices about the common, finger-long, green caterpillars of our larger moths. Their hearts, instead of being in front, are at the back of the body and extend along the entire length of the animal. One can see the heart distinctly through the thin skin, and can watch its slow beat, which starts at the tail and moves forward to the head. Hearts of this sort, reaching from head to tail, are not at all uncommon in the simpler creatures. The earth worm has one, and so have most worms, caterpillars, and other crawling things. Hearts in the middle of the back also are quite as frequent as those in what seems to us to be the natural place. Many animals, the lobster, for example, and the cray-fish and the crab, which have short hearts like those of the beasts and birds, nevertheless have them placed just under the shell in what, in ourselves, would be the small of the back.

The Atlantic Cable.

Wednesday, August 5, marked the golden jubilee of the completion of the Atlantic cable. On August 5, 1858, after many disheartening failures, the European end of the cable was landed at Douglas Bay, Valentia, and almost immediately a message was received through it announcing that the American end was being landed at Trinity Bay, Newfoundland. followed a cablegram from Queen Victoria to the American President, and telegraphic communication between the two continents was an accomplished fact. True, the first cable was unsatisfactory, and after a couple of months it gave out altogether, chiefly owing to the excessive current sent through it; but the fact remained that a cable had been successfully laid, and thereafter it was only a question of the improvement of the working apparatus. Then it was that the Belfast man, Professor William Thomson, afterwards to be known as Lord Kelvin, came to the rescue with his mirror galvanometer, and the permanence of the system was assured. Since then another scientist of Irish blood, Signor Marconi, has taught us to do without cables altogether, but even this cannot diminish the greatness of the achievement of the men of fifty years ago.

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