

settled in the north-eastern frontier of the Roman Empire in the early Christian era, is showing a decided disposition to return to the spiritual rule of Rome. Application has been made to the Holy See to appoint another Bishop and establish another See in Rumania, in consequence of the large numbers of conversions from the Greek Church. There are upwards of 50,000 Catholics of the Latin rite in Bucharest, whilst there remain only 4000 of the Greek rite. In the diocese of Jassy there are 89,000 Catholics of the Latin rite and only 1000 Greeks. Many of the most distinguished Rumanian families have been received into the Church recently, among whom were the Princes Vlademir Ghika and Gherban Cantacuzene. There is evidence of a strong desire among the clergy to join the Catholic Church. The Rumanian language is a Latin language, with a close kinship to Italian, and only slightly influenced by the languages of the Slav races by whom the Rumanians are surrounded.

### 'INNISFAIL'

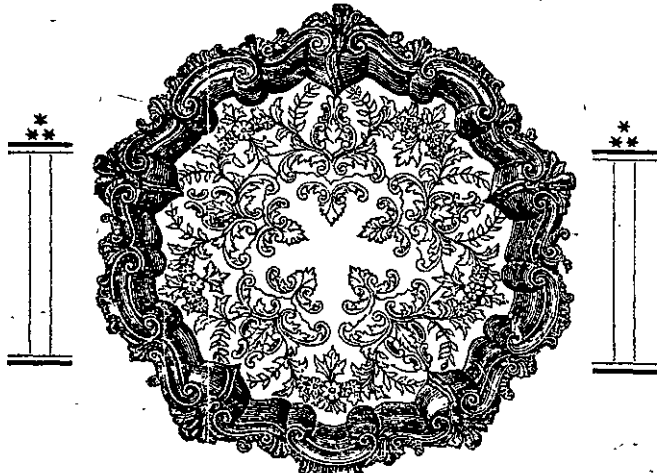
The drawing nigh of the time when our Catholic schools will be holding their annual distribution of prizes prior to the Christmas holidays reminds us of the difficulty often experienced by the principals of such schools in selecting suitable books for presentation. No more suitable prize book could be placed in the hands of young people than the Rev. Father Hickey's *Innisfail; or, Distant Days in Tipperary*. This is a simple, natural story, told with much force and dramatic power, containing a good deal of instructive matter of a high moral tone, and of high literary merit throughout. When we say that it is a natural story we do not mean to say that it is without thrilling incidents, which cannot fail to rivet the attention of the reader. The *Dublin Freeman's Journal*, in its review of the book, says: 'The characters are all drawn and presented with a sense of realism that ensures them a warm corner in the reader's heart. The author deals all through with the living realities, with the struggles and the trials of life. Incidentally, he paints the evils of landlordism and tyranny, and of eviction and immigration, in forcible and striking colors. In a word, the author is a man who knows Irish life and, in his distant home in Australia, daily surrounded himself with its hallowed memories. The book is remarkable, perhaps as much for its promise for the future as for its own intrinsic merit. In it Father Hickey lays the foundation stone of a literary fame and reputation, and it is to be hoped that *Innisfail* is but an earnest of what is to come.' His Lordship Dr. Gallagher, Bishop of Goulburn, says: 'I could and will recommend it as a fine type of prize book for our schools, primary and select, throughout the diocese. *Innisfail* is a really good book, and has come to stay.' The work will be supplied to Catholic Colleges, Convents, and schools throughout Australia for 3s 6d per copy, post free, by the Rev. Father Hickey, Corowa, New South Wales.

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## Domestic

By MAUREEN

#### A Darning Hint.

Before mending stockings with ordinary darning yarn, it is a good plan to hold the card or skein over the spout of a kettle of boiling water. By this means the steam effectually shrinks the wool, and when the mended stocking is sent to the wash no fear need be entertained of the mended portion shrinking away from or tearing the surrounding part.

#### Croup.

The sound of a croupy cough strikes terror into the heart, the more so as it usually occurs without any warning in the dead of night. Often the saving of the sufferer depends on immediate remedies applied. One of the most efficacious remedies is said to be alum and sugar. Take a knife and grate or shave off in small particles about a teaspoonful of alum, then mix it with twice its quantity of sugar to make it palatable, and administer it as quickly as possible. Almost instantaneous relief will follow.

#### Tea Stains.

Dried tea marks are always troublesome to remove, and in the case of a dainty tea cloth trimmed with lace and embroidery, which is always carefully washed at home without boiling, the stains should be treated at once. A mixture should be made of equal parts of glycerine and the yolk of an egg, and this should be painted over the stain and left until perfectly dry. A good rinsing should then be given with clean water, and the cloth can afterwards be washed as usual.

#### To Clean Jewellery.

Gold jewellery in constant use becomes grimy looking and dull, but it can be wonderfully brightened by washing in ammonia and water. Should the interstices of a brooch or links of a chain be clogged with dust, the articles should be first immersed in a cupful of warm water and rubbed gently with a brush which has been dipped in soapsuds. They must then be laid in a little warm water to which a few drops of ammonia have been added, and after a few moments removed and dried in a soft cloth, polishing being afterwards effected with a chamouis leather. Rings set with diamonds, sapphires, emeralds, or rubies should always be removed when the hands are washed. When the stones appear dull and lifeless, and the setting ingrained with dirt, they should, however, be dipped in warm soapsuds made with yellow soap, twelve or fifteen drops of sal volatile being added when the lather is made. This will have the effect of restoring all the lost brilliancy of the gem.

#### Stained Tan Shoes.

Stains in calf tan should be first washed in warm soapy water, to which has been added a little soda. When dry, rub the stained part with a rag dipped in methylated spirits, then polish with tan paste. Should the stained part be a little darker than the rest of the leather, rub well with a raw onion before applying the paste. Stains on chrome tan (grained or morocco leather) should be rubbed over with methylated spirits or with a slice of lemon. The acid in the latter is one of the best possible removers of stains in soft leathers. Polish off with tan paste. Tan kid is more delicate. Stains in it should be covered with fuller's earth, laid on damp, and allowed to dry. Brush off, rub with lemon and polish with milk. Ordinary tan paste should not be used for kid, as it dries and cracks the leather. Stains on glace tan will usually yield to lemon or methylated spirits. Finish off with milk to soften leather again. When any kind of tan shoes (except kid) get so much stained that they look shabby, they should be blackened in the following manner:—Brush off the dirt, rub all over with a raw onion, then give a good coat of ink. When this is quite dry, polish with either paste or oil blacking, and a really good finish will be the result, and a new lease of life given to the shoes.

*Maureen*

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