

## Intercolonial

The Rev. P. J. Moore, of Bombala, celebrated the silver jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood on Tuesday, September 22. Presentations were made to him in the local convent school.

The Rev. R. Collins, pastor of South Melbourne, has received by cable the sad news of the death of his father, Mr. Patrick Collins, who passed away at Ballybunion, County Kerry, on September 28.

Substantial assistance to our Catholic institutions (says the *Advocate*) has been more than usually in evidence lately. Only a few weeks ago, a farmer in the northern district left large sums to these institutions in the metropolitan area, and this week a charitable lady of Geelong has left some £400 for the same purpose.

The handsome and commodious new church of the Vincentian Fathers, Malvern (says the *Advocate*) was solemnly blessed and opened on Sunday, September 27, by the Very Rev. Dean Phelan, V.G., in the presence of a very large congregation. Pontifical High Mass was celebrated by the Right Rev. Dr. Corbett, Bishop of Sale. Prior to the occasional sermon, Very Rev. Dean Hegarty announced that the cost of the church, exclusive of seating accommodation, etc., was £7186, and it was anticipated that incidental expenses would bring the total cost to £8000. The amount received in donations at the laying of the foundation stone had been £1700, which was very gratifying.

The will of the late Mary Ann Watson, of Geelong, who died on December 22 last, was lodged for probate on September 25. The deceased lady left property of the value of £9921. By a will dated October 2, 1907, the testatrix provides for the following bequests:—£100 to the Foundling Hospital, Broadmeadows; £100 to the priest in charge of St. Mary's, Geelong; £50 to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, Geelong; £50 to the Geelong Ladies' Benevolent Association; £50 to the Geelong Infirmary and Benevolent Association; £50 to the Girls' Orphanage in connection with the Convent of Mercy, Newtown, Geelong; £50 to the Catholic Boys' Orphanage, Geelong; £50 to the Little Sisters of the Poor; and £50 to the Home for Destitute Catholic Children, Surrey Hills. The remainder of the property is left to relatives and friends of the testatrix.

Speaking at the blessing and opening of a new presbytery at Flemington on Sunday, September 27, Very Rev. Dean Phelan, V.G., said: 'Just twenty golden years ago I received from the Archbishop my first appointment as curate to Father Nelan, of Essendon, and my first duty there was to say Mass at St. Brendan's, across the road, for at that date Flemington formed part of the Essendon parish, and my first pastor and myself had to look after the spiritual wants of that large district between Flemington Bridge and the Deep Creek, and from the old Sydney road to the Saltwater River. You had then only one Mass at St. Brendan's, and even that small church was not overcrowded. Now you are an independent parish, with two priests, two churches, four Masses, and still the cry is for a larger building and more room. And this development is only in harmony with the wonderful development which has taken place in the wider field of the archdiocese during the same period. In August of last year, when we priests and people were reminding our great chief, the Archbishop, of the marvellous progress the Church of Melbourne made under his administration, we found that the enormous sum of £1,300,000 had been expended in twenty years on churches, schools, presbyteries, convents, and charitable institutions. So that every prominent hilltop in the city and suburbs has been adorned with some beautiful building in which the Catholic children are provided with real education, or the abandoned infant will find a foster-mother, or the sin-stained soul a virgin protector, or the aged a home to rest from the struggles of life and an opportunity to prepare for our home in eternity.'

**MYERS & CO.,** Dentists, Octagon, corner of George street. They guarantee the highest class of work at moderate fees. Their artificial teeth give general satisfaction, and the fact of them supplying a temporary denture while the gums are healing does away with the inconvenience of being months without teeth. They manufacture a single artificial tooth for Ten Shillings, and sets equally moderate. The administration of nitrous oxide gas is also a great boon to those needing the extraction of a tooth....

## Science Siftings

BY VOLT

The Stenotypist.

In yet another field of activity mere manual dexterity is threatened with dispossession by mechanical ingenuity. At last a machine has been devised for writing shorthand—a machine so simple that any one can master it, and so efficient that even the highly-trained stenographer cannot hope to do more than rival it. The stenotypist, as this wonderful contrivance is called, is in bulk and weight a mere fraction of the standard typewriter, and can readily be worked on the operator's knees. It has just six keys, and by permutations and combinations of these six keys, taken two or three together, a complete alphabet is built up—an alphabet of dot and dash, similar in kind to that of the Morse code. The learner has simply to commit this alphabet to memory, and the machine will do the rest. With less diligence than is often devoted to the acquisition of a mere parlor game, any ordinary person should be able to write stenotypy at quite a serviceable speed.

Comets.

People who lie awake o' nights worrying as to what would happen if some fiercely flaming comet should collide with the earth some time or other may make their minds easy on that subject (remarks the *Sacred Heart Review*). The Rev. Martin S. Brennan, of St. Louis, the well-known authority on affairs concerning the celestial bodies, declares that comets are not a menace to the earth. They are entirely harmless. He gives this comforting assurance in a letter to the *Western Watchman*, and says, furthermore: 'The matter composing comets is of extraordinary tenuity. The feeblest ray of light may traverse thousands of miles of cometary substance without perceptible diminution. As an indisputable instance of this, Professor Dawes saw a star of the tenth magnitude through the very centre of a comet on October 11, 1847. Again, from the fact that comets have no appreciable effect in perturbing the planets, even little Mercury, it is evident that their mass must be utterly insignificant compared with the planetary masses.'

Wireless Telephony.

The *Daily Mail's* correspondent at Paris writes:—Some astounding results with the wireless telephone were obtained the other day at the Eiffel Tower Wireless Station by Naval Lieutenants Colin and Jeance, and Chief Engineer Mercier, who last week successfully spoke from Paris to Dieppe. On August 8, having effected various modification in the instruments, they have been using, the above-named officers endeavored to telephone by wireless from the Eiffel Tower to the Wireless Station at Pointe De Raz, on the coast of Finistère, a distance of 310 miles. The trials began in the early hours of the morning, that being judged the most favorable time. During the first hour or so, the sound of a motor horn, the ringing of a bell, a song on the gramophone, etc., were transmitted, and heard distinctly. Then voice messages were sent through, and, although they were very faint and not always clear, several of the phrases transmitted were understood. It is believed this is the first time conversation has taken place over such a great distance. It is understood that the officers hold the opinion that the present experiments, which are to be continued, will make wireless telephony a practical possibility within the next few months.

The Uses of Rubber.

The International Rubber Exhibition at the Olympia (writes the London correspondent of the *Irish News*) will show the public to what diversified purposes the product of the rubber plant has been turned. A man who once said he had no use for India-rubber was asked how many rubber articles he had upon him. He said none. Investigation showed that he had braces, stocking suspenders, spring sides to his boots, rubber heels, a tobacco pouch, a pipe with a vulcanite mouthpiece, ink eraser, rubber band round his papers, and a top of a fountain pen—total, 14 articles. A gigantic trade with rubber is done with these countries, the value of the imports of the raw material last year being nearly eleven millions sterling. The exhibition will show how the rubber trees grow and are tapped, and how the 'milk' is taken from them; and demonstrations will be given to prove that 'there is nothing like rubber.' This will be the first exhibition of an international character. The danger of a rubber famine which recently threatened the motor and bicycle industry has now passed away. Rubber is more plentiful and cheaper than it has been for a long time past, which accounts for the way the price of tyres has been 'cut.'

**DEAR ME!**

Forgotten that SYMINGTON'S COFFEE ESSENCE! Whatever shall I do! Call at the nearest Store and ask. THEY ALL KEEP IT