

Friends at Court

CLEANINGS FOR NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

December 27, Sunday.—St. John, Apostle and Evangelist.
 „ 28, Monday.—The Holy Innocents, Martyrs.
 „ 29, Tuesday.—St. Thomas of Canterbury, Bishop and Martyr.
 „ 30, Wednesday.—St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Widow.
 „ 31, Thursday.—St. Sylvester, Pope and Confessor.
 January 1, Friday.—Feast of the Circumcision. Holiday of Obligation.
 „ 2, Saturday.—Octave of St. Stephen.

St. Elizabeth of Hungary, Widow.

St. Elizabeth was the daughter of the King of Hungary, and the wife of Louis, Landgrave of Thuringia. She was remarkable for her charity, and took a special delight in serving the sick with her own hands. On the death of her husband, St. Elizabeth was driven from her home, and reduced to take shelter with her children in a building that had been used for swine. These and other privations she bore uncomplainingly. She died in 1231, in the 24th year of her age.

St. Sylvester, Pope and Confessor.

St. Sylvester, a native of Rome, was called to rule the Church during the twenty-one years which followed the accession of Constantine. One of his principal cares was to provide churches for the faithful, who were now, for the first time, allowed perfect liberty in the exercise of their religion. The most important event in the pontificate of St. Sylvester was the celebration of the First General Council, which was presided over by the Papal legates, and in which the errors of Arius were condemned. St. Sylvester died in 335.

GRAINS OF GOLD

A LEGEND OF THE NATIVITY.

The chilly, wind-swept stable-home
 A holy Temple hath become,
 And Mary worships at the shrine
 Of Emmanuel Divine.
 Prostrate, adoring, kisses meet
 She presseth to His sacred feet
 Who lieth where the beasts have trod,
 While in great awe she doth repeat—
 'My God! my God!'

The cattle's straw-strewn stable-home
 A Royal Palace hath become;
 Before Him, throned upon the mow,
 Again Our Lady sweet doth bow,
 In homage kissing His dear hand
 Who earth and heaven doth command,
 While in great rapture doth she sing
 With all the choir of angel band—
 'My King! my King!'

But now the stable hath become
 The Holy Infant's earthly home,
 And Mary stoops to lift and hold,
 And fondly to her bosom fold,
 This Child of glory and of grace
 And shower soft kisses on His face:
 'My Love! My own most precious One!
 Come to Thy Mother's dear embrace—
 'My Son! my Son!'

—Rev. David Bearne, S.J.

No man can make a habit in a moment or break it in a moment. It is a matter of development, of growth. But at any moment one may begin to make or begin to break any habit.—William G. Jordan.

More abundantly, perhaps, than any other season of the ecclesiastical year, the Christmas tide furnishes valuable and graphically presented lessons well worth pondering over by religious, the young, penitents, and all who are immediately subject to legitimate superiors. Not the least important and practical among these lessons is one which that eminent master of the spiritual life, St. Francis of Sales, thus succinctly formulated in a discourse on the virtue of obedience 'I take for my model,' he said, 'the little Babe of Bethlehem, who knew so much, could do so much, and yet allowed Himself to be managed without a word.'

The Storyteller

JOB WARNER'S CHRISTMAS

The day before Christmas was drawing to a close. Cold gray clouds drifted off to the eastward, and a snow storm seemed imminent. But in spite of threatening clouds gay throngs crowded the thoroughfares. The shop windows were brilliant with articles of every conceivable variety adapted for Christmas gifts. So the human tide ebbed and flowed, surging into shops, taxing to the utmost the attention of overworked clerks, and receded with pleasant surprises destined on the following morning to make many households happy.

In front of a large window, brilliantly illuminated, stood an elderly man, somewhat under middle stature. Job Warner was scarcely fifty, but sedentary habits and long stooping over a desk had bowed his form and gave him the appearance of being several years older than he actually was. For twenty-five years he had been assistant bookkeeper in the counting-room of Bentley and Co., importers of dry goods and wholesale jobbers. His excellent business capacity would have secured his promotion to the post of chief bookkeeper, but his own humility and absence of pretension had unconsciously influenced his employers to accept him at his own valuation. So while the firm had prospered and made money by the hundreds of thousands, still Job Warner continued to be assistant bookkeeper on a modest salary of seven hundred dollars. With a family becoming daily more expensive, the little bookkeeper had found it hard work to make both ends meet. He was compelled to live in very poor and incommodious lodgings and practice humble acts of self-denial, all of which he bore with a meek and uncomplaining spirit, with which he was doubtless credited in that better world, where, we trust, all the inequalities of this life will be made up.

The last year had been rather a trying one to Job Warner. The enhanced price of nearly every article which is included under the head of necessities had made a rigid economy needful. Months ago the family had given up using sugar and butter was only used on Sundays. Frugality had become a rule, and was meekly submitted to as a necessary condition of life. But, in spite of his habitual self-denial, the worthy bookkeeper was stirred with an impulse to extravagance on this day. In the window before him bloomed a large doll—quite a queen she must have been in the realm of dolls—royally attired in a purple silk dress and a bonnet of the latest style. The eyes of the good bookkeeper were fixed in admiration upon this beautiful doll vision. There was a household pet at home, little Effie, whom the possession of that doll would exalt to the seventh heaven of happiness. True, such a royal lady might spurn the idea of entering so humble a home, and her silks might seem out of place in contrast with the calicoes and gingham with which Effie and her mother were contented. But when these considerations suggested themselves to Job Warner he triumphantly answered: 'Is there anything too good for Effie?'

Yes, we have found out the little bookkeeper's weakness. He no sooner thought of little Effie's bright eyes dancing with delight than his habitual prudence forsook him. With the air of desperate resolution he entered the brilliant shop, and, timidly pushing his way among the well-dressed crowds surrounding the counter, asked with an apologetic cough the price of her Royal Highness in the window.

The clerk looked a little surprised at such a question from a man of so humble appearance, and answered, in a short, quick tone: 'Five dollars, sir. Will you take it?'

Five dollars! Job was startled at the price, and answered in an abashed tone that he would not decide just yet.

Outside, he again looked longingly at the doll. Effie would be so delighted with it—but then five dollars! He reckoned up what a number of articles might be purchased for five dollars, and shook his head reluctantly. Mrs. Warner would think he had quite taken leave of his senses. Of course, he must give up all thoughts of it. But no! A daring suggestion occurred to him. Might he not apply to Mr. Bentley for an increase of salary? There had been a general raising of salaries elsewhere. That he knew. His old friend Timothy Fogg had his raised six months ago, but somehow Job had never succeeded in summoning up courage to make such a request of his employer. He was not sure, in his humility, whether he was worth any more than seven hundred dollars a year. But his love for his little Effie gave him unwonted boldness. With an increase of salary he could buy this magnificent doll for her and afford his oldest boy a course of lessons in drawing, for which he had a strong taste. Yes, he would ask to

Every Home Should Have a Piano!

YES, and a GOOD Piano. Better none at all than the jingle-jangling of a jerry-built instrument, made exclusively for shipment to the Colonies!

A bad piano in a home will help to spoil the musical taste of the children. A GOOD Piano is not necessarily a dear instrument; we can supply GOOD Pianos at low prices. For 40 years we have been selling Good Pianos in New Zealand.

We would ask you to send for particulars of our "DOMINION" Model—an excellent Piano at only **35 GUINEAS**. It is made for us by Thurmar of London: Iron Frame, Full Trichord, Check Action. Beautiful Walnut case. And the price is Wonderfully Low.

* * *

Write to-day for picture of this Piano—Free.....

CHAS. BEGG & Co (LIMITED)

Headquarters for Musical Instruments,
DUNEDIN.

Club Hotel - Kaikoura

MARLBOROUGH
J. C. Mullane - Proprietor



To a meal unless it includes a cup of that delicious beverage

"KUKOS" TEA

This Tea can be obtained from the leading Grocers and Storekeepers throughout Otago and Southland, and is, without doubt, the **VERY BEST**. It is put up in four qualities, packed in 1lb. and ½lb. packets, and 5lb. and 10lb. tins.

MASONIC HOTEL

CHRISTCHURCH

Visitors to the above Hotel will receive Good Mile Fallow from the Proprietor,

E. POWER

Late of Dunedin.

PLEASE DON'T FORGET!

SIMON Excel in **BOOTS** for real hard wear.
Also Excel in High-Grade **BOOTS**.

BROTHERS

WINTER STOCK NOW OPENING UP.

VISIT US.

Address—
GEORGE STREET, ... DUNEDIN
Near Octagon.

S. McBRIDE,

TIMARU.

Direct Importer of **MARBLE AND GRANITE MONUMENTS** from the best Italian and Scotch Quarries.

A large stock of the Latest Designs to select from at lowest prices.

A Great Summer Delicacy

There is no summer delicacy that is in greater demand than Jelly Crystals when the weather is warm, and light, cooling foods are so necessary.

Care, however, should be exercised by those who value their health to buy only the brand that has been proved to be absolutely pure, wholesome and nourishing.

Rowntree's Jelly Crystals

Is the Brand you should call for. An eminent analyst, after severe comparative tests, has pronounced Rowntree's Jelly Crystals to be the purest, most nourishing, and most palatable brand on the market at Home or abroad. Make sure you get Rowntree's, and you run no risk of having your stomach upset.

Sole Proprietors:

Gregg & Co - Dunedin

Manufacturers of "CLUB" COFFEE,
"EAGLE" STARCH, &c.

How About Your Heart?

IF you knew that you would die the moment your watch stopped, wouldn't you be very careful that it should always be kept in perfect condition? Of course you would. Well this is exactly the case with your heart. Did you ever think of it in this sense? Perhaps not, but your doctor has, and that's just why he feels your pulse the first thing. Your pulse is your heart's indicator—the vital organ in your body. He wants to know if this all-important, this vital organ of the body, is beating too fast or too slow, or if there is any irregularity in its action. Have you shortness of breath after slight exertion, palpitation, fluttering, hot flushes, pain or tenderness in left breast, side, shoulder, or arm, pain under left shoulder-blade, oppressed feeling in chest, choking sensation, weak or hungry spells, smothering or fainting spells, or does lying on your left side give you pain or discomfort? If you have any of these symptoms, your heart action is weak, and you don't require anyone to tell you about it—you know it for yourself. Do not neglect the matter longer—it is too serious for delay. Start a course of Dr. Day's Heart-Help today. This famous medicine has made many a heart strong—has restored health and happiness to many a poor sufferer. Give it a fair trial. Your chemist can supply Dr. Day's Heart-Help at 4/6 per bottle, or it will be sent post free on receipt of price by Dr. Day's Heart-Help Co., Cathedral Square, Christchurch.

CHRISTCHURCH DENTAL CHAMBERS.

IN UNQUALIFIED SUCCESS IN THE SCIENTIFIC ART OF UP-TO-DATE DENTISTRY.

A LEGALLY Qualified and Registered Practitioner of some years' standing feels it due to his wide professional knowledge in the study and deep research of the methods of up-to-date Dentistry to introduce to the public an entirely new and successful process whereby the most difficult decayed and troublesome teeth can be extracted without the slightest pain whatever. This new method causes no unconsciousness or sickly after-effects. The patient is simply aware of what is taking place but absolutely feels no pain.

There is no experimenting and no failures, and why should one suffer the continual martyrdom of Pain, Nervousness, Indigestion, and Functional Disturbances arising from bad teeth when such an opportunity presents itself of removing the cause of all these troubles without pain?

All patients may depend upon receiving the greatest care and attention, as a Skilful and Expert Specialist is constantly in attendance, also a Lady Assistant for ladies and children. Gas, Chloroform, or Ether also administered if required.

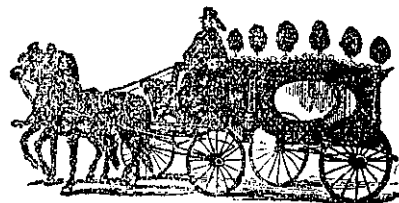
The surgeries are fitted up with the very latest Electrical Appliances for all sorts of Fillings, Porcelain Inlays, Crown and Bridge Work.

Note the Address: First Flat Wardell's Buildings, corner High and Cashel Streets, where there are seven rooms, consisting of Surgeries, Waiting-room, Mechanic and Plate Department. Plates made only of very best materials and the fit guaranteed, or no charge made.

Consultation Hours: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., and 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. daily. Saturdays close at 1 p.m., open again at 7 p.m.

Terms very moderate, and Consultation Free. Special arrangements made for families. Country appointments made by letter receive strict attention. Telephone 958.

J. E. BAIN, Dental Surgeon.



JOHN MOORE

Undertaker & Cabinetmaker,

THAMES STREET, OAMARU
WAIMATE, AND ASHBURTON.

OAMARU
TELEPHONE } 93 * NEAR RAILWAY STATION

FUNERALS conducted in town or country.

In Memoriam Wreaths always in stock
JOHN MOORE for Italian and French
..... **IRON BEDSTEADS**

See my **SPRING MATTRESS** and you are sure to buy

SUITES OF FURNITURE made on.....
Shortest Notice, and kept in stock.

BEDDING OF ALL KINDS. Bachelors reduced in number by giving me a call, as those Bedsteads are sure to catch them

J. M O O R M A O K
Melville Hill Shoeing Forge,

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.

J. McCORMACK Melville Hill Shoeing Forge.

have his salary raised that very night. A little matter of business had detained Mr. John Bentley, the head of the firm, in his office, so that he would be sure to find him on returning thither.

Mr. Bentley was seated in his office glancing over some papers. He was a large, portly man, a little pompous in manner; and a glance from his grey eyes always confused the worthy bookkeeper, who, long as he had known him, had never got to feel quite at ease in his company. Job had an indistinct idea that his employer was immensely superior to him in every way, and looked up to him with distant reverence.

John Bentley lifted his eyebrows in surprise as Job shuffled in at the door, his hat under his arm, with an air of nervous trepidation which the consciousness of his errand inspired.

'Have you forgotten anything, Warner?' demanded Mr. Bentley, in a clear, commanding tone.

'No, sir, Mr. Bentley; or rather I should say yes,' stammered the bookkeeper. 'There was a little matter which I wished to speak to you about. But I should not wish to take up your time if you are busy, sir, and I will wait till some other occasion.'

'If you can say what you have to say in five minutes, Warner, go on,' returned his employer.

'It was about an increase of salary, Mr. Bentley,' said he, plunging into his subject and talking fast to keep his courage up. 'Prices have been rising of late so much that I find it very difficult to maintain a wife and four children on seven hundred dollars a year. I do, indeed, sir. If you would be kind enough to add a hundred, or even fifty, I would thank you gratefully, sir.'

'An increase of salary, eh, Warner? Seven hundred dollars used to be considered a fair salary. Of course, some get much more. But you know, Warner, that you are not a first-class man of business. You do your work very satisfactorily, but—'

'I know what you would say, Mr. Bentley,' interrupted Job, humbly. 'I know my abilities are small, but I try to be faithful. I hope I have always been faithful to the best of my poor abilities.'

'Yes, Warner, you have. Don't think I have any complaint to make; but as to an increase of salary, that requires consideration. Probably the high prices will not always last, and in the meantime you can be more economical.'

More economical! And this to Job, who had been a close economist all his life. However, he did not venture to reply, but, bowing humbly, withdrew. A minute later his employer, who had got through with the business which detained him, put on his overcoat and followed. On his way back Job paused again before the window, which had so great an attraction for him. Again he thought how much little Effie would like it. But he felt satisfied from Mr. Bentley's manner that there was little hope of an increase of income, and without that such an outlay would be unpardonable extravagance.

'No,' he half sighed, 'I must give up the idea of buying it, and little Effie must be content with something less expensive.'

Mr. John Bentley was close behind, and heard this speech. 'So he wanted to buy that piece of finery,' thought he. 'No, wonder he demanded an increase of salary.'

The two men continued to walk in the same direction, Job, of course, unconscious of Mr. Bentley's proximity. Suddenly from the darkness of a side street emerged a little girl, a very picture of wretchedness, with ragged dress, pinched and famished features, and feet almost bare, notwithstanding the inclement season. She looked up piteously in the face of Job Warner.

'I am very cold and hungry,' she murmured.

'Poor child! poor child!' ejaculated Job, compassionately. 'Have you no home?'

'No; mother died last week, and since then I have lived in the streets.'

'Have you had anything to eat to-day?'

'Yes, sir, a cracker.'

'Only a cracker!' repeated Job, pitifully. 'And where do you expect to pass the night?'

'I don't know, sir.'

'Where did you sleep last night?'

'In a doorway; but they drove me off this morning. I wish mother were alive again.' The poor child burst into tears, sobbing convulsively.

'Don't cry,' my dear, said Job soothingly. 'Don't cry. You shall come home with me, and I will let you sleep in a warm bed and give you something to eat. I am poor, my child, but not so poor as you, thank God! I had intended to buy some little presents for my children, but they will be better pleased if I spend the money in making you comfortable. Take my hand and we shall soon be at home.'

During this colloquy John Bentley withdrew into a doorway. He had felt some curiosity to learn how his bookkeeper would deal with this claim upon his bounty. There was something in the straightforward simplicity and kind heart of Job that touched him, and made him feel not a little compunction for his own bearing in the interview which had just taken place between them.

'He is about to deprive his children of their Christmas presents for the sake of succoring that poor little outcast,' said John Bentley to himself. 'He has a noble heart, poor fellow! And he shall be no loser by it. After all, seven hundred dollars must be quite insufficient in these times. I will see what I can do for him.'

It was the merchant's better nature that spoke. He was not naturally a selfish man, only inconsiderate. Now that his benevolent impulses were excited, he would not rest until they were embodied in action. Honest Job, never hast thou done a better night's work than this. Thy kindness to the little outcast shall be richly recompensed.

With the little girl's hand firmly clasped in his, Job paused before the door of a small wooden tenement and, turning the knob, softly entered.

'Why, Job, how late you are!' said a kind, motherly woman, advancing to meet him. 'And, merciful goodness! who have you there?'

'A poor child, Mary, without father or mother, who was wandering hungry through the streets. I couldn't help bringing her home, could I? Think if it had been little Effie!'

'You did quite right, Job. Poor little thing! How thin she is. Are you hungry, little girl?'

'Oh, so hungry and cold! May I warm myself by your fire, ma'am?'

'Bless me, child, I ought to have thought of it before. Yes, go and sit down on the cricket, and I will bring you some bread and milk.'

While the little girl's wants were being satisfied Mrs. Warner said: 'Well, Job, what have you got for the children?'

'I didn't get anything, Mary. I was just going to get some little things when this poor child came up. I thought maybe we might be willing to keep her for a week or so and fit her out with some better clothes, and I am afraid we can't afford to do that and buy presents for the children too. Do you think they would be willing to do without them for this year?'

'I am sure they will. But all have hung up their stockings; I must tell them to-night so that they need not be disappointed in the morning.'

The considerate mother went upstairs and acquainted the children that their father had brought home a poor little girl who had no father nor mother, and asked if for her sake they would be willing to give up their Christmas presents. This appeal went to the children's hearts. They were also delighted with the idea of a new playfellow, and in bright anticipations of the morrow lost sight entirely of the stockings that were destined to remain unfilled.

'What did the children say?' asked Job, a little uncasily.

'Dear children!' said Mrs. Warner, wiping her eyes with motherly affection and pride. 'They took it like little angels. They are very anxious to see the little girl. I do believe they will regard her as the best Christmas present they could have.'

'I wish we could do something more than keep her for a few days,' said Job, thoughtfully.

'So do I. If you only had a little larger salary, Job, it might be done. Why don't you ask for more?'

'I did to-night, Mary.'

'And what did Mr. Bentley say?' inquired Mrs. Warner, eagerly.

'He advised me to economise.'

'As if you hadn't been doing it all your life,' exclaimed his wife, indignantly. 'Little he knows what economy is.'

'Hush, Mary,' said Job, half frightened. 'Of course, he can't understand how hard a time we have to get along.'

'No, but he ought to inquire. What harm would it do him to give you an extra hundred dollars?'

'I suppose he could afford it,' said John; 'but perhaps he doesn't think I am worth any more. As he said, seven hundred dollars used to be considered a fair salary.'

'So he refused your application.'

'Well, no, not exactly. He said he would take it into consideration. But I am sure from his tone that I have nothing to expect. We must get along as well as we can through the hard times, and perhaps things will improve by and bye.'

'What a thoroughly good man you are, Job!' said Mrs. Warner, looking affectionately at her husband, who was dear to her in spite of his shabby coat.

'Of course, I have got a good wife,' he answered cheer-

GIFTS THAT GIVE PLEASURE

Here's a list of gifts that give real pleasure because of their utility as well as their beauty. It's a list that's worth reading—it's full of suggestions for your 'Xmas presents. If you don't live in Christchurch, let us mail you what you require—such orders are as carefully filled as if you were here yourself—and sent you post free by return.

Lovely Ties and Scarfs of Real Maltese Lace, 7s 6d, 12s 6d, 21s, 42s.

New Peggy Bags in coloured leathers, 1s 11d, 3s 9d, 5s 6d, 10s 6d, to 25s.

Ladies' Handkerchiefs, embroidered or lace-edged, 7d, 9d, 1s, 1s 6d, 2s, 2s 11d each. Children's Frocks, in silk or Muslin, 6s 6d, 9s 11d, 12s 6d, 15s 6d, 25s

Ladies' Silk Blouses, 10s 6d, 15s, 21s.

White undershirts, beautifully trimmed, 7s 6d, 10s 6d, 15s, 21s.

Linen Tray Cloths, 1s 9d, 2s 6d, 3s 9d, 5s, 7s 6d, 9s 6d.

Cushion covers in embroidered muslin or crash, 1s 6d, 2s 6d, 3s 6d.

Cozys, 1s 11d, 3s 6d, 5s 6d.

Blouse lengths of Pongee Silk, white and all colours, 4s 11d, 5s 11d, 7s d, 8s 6d.

Blouse lengths of black silk, 11s 6d, 13s 6d, 15s, 21s.

Blouse lengths of pretty de-laine, 4s 11d, and 5s 6d.

Men's Hemstitched Linen Handkerchiefs, 1s 3d, 1s 6d, and 2s.

Men's Jap. Silk Hemstitched Handkerchiefs, 2s 6d, 3s 6d, and 4s 6d.

Men's Umbrellas, 8s 6d, 10s 6d, 14s 6d, 22s 6d.

**Graham, Wilson
and Smellie**

High St., Christchurch

The People's Place for Value.



Oxford Hotel

COLOMBO STREET N. (near Bridge),
CHRISTCHURCH.

R. A. HEARN.....Proprietor
(Late of Wellington).

Customers can always depend upon
Civility and the Best of Liquors.

Queen's Hotel

CHRISTCHURCH.

J. J. KAVANAGH.....Proprietor
(Late of Temuka).

Good Accommodation for Travellers and
Boarders.

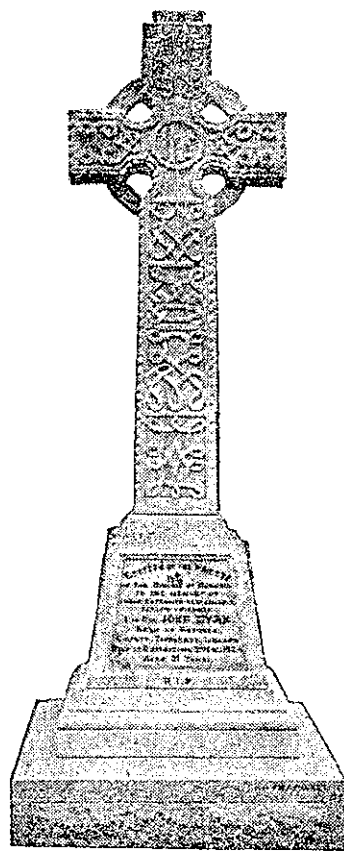
Only Speight's XXXX Ale on Tap.
BEST WINES and SPIRITS ONLY.

Notice of Removal.

R. MILLIS & SON,
General Engineers & Machinists,
19 BATH STREET,
DUNEDIN

HAVE pleasure in intimating to their Customers that they have SHIFTEO INTO THEIR NEW AND UP-TO-DATE WORKSHOP, which is being equipped with Machinery and Tools of the Very Best Class, which will enable them to turn ou work to their Customers' and their own satisfaction.

Please } 19 Bath Street
Note Address { Telephone No. 505.



ERECTED TO THE MEMORY OF THE
LATE REV. JOHN RYAN.

EXECUTED BY H. FRAPWELL.

Frapwell and Holgate

-- Monumental Sculptors --

PRINCES STREET SOUTH,
DUNEDIN.

Direct Importer of Marble and
Granite Monuments.

Designs and Estimates on application.
Country Orders promptly attended to.

PATENTS and TRADE MARKS

Obtained in all Countries by

HENRY HUGHES, International

Patent Agent.

Dunedin Office.

A.M.P. BUILDINGS, PRINCES ST.

T. H. THOMPSON, Local Agent.

Telephone, 1706. Handbook on Application
Correspondence promptly attended to.

'A Useful Xmas Present'



**TRY
THIS
WATCH**

SEVEN DAYS FREE.

It is a handsome nickel-plated key-less watch, so can be wound or set right without being opened. It is absolutely dust and damp proof. Every part is interchangeable, and can be replaced in any country at a low cost in case of accident. Fitted with jewelled compensation balance, so will keep good time anywhere.

OUR OFFER.—Send P.O.O. for 25/- and we will send you this watch post free on Seven Days' Free Trial. If after using it that time you are not satisfied it is exceptional value, send it back in good order and we refund your money in full. You are the sole judge. We look upon your 25/- merely as a deposit meantime.

B. PETERSEN & SON

Watchmakers - - Christchurch

Waltham Arms Hotel

WALTHAM, CHRISTCHURCH.

R. BERTI.....Proprietor
(Late Traveller for Fletcher, Humphries,
and Co.)

Best Brands of Wines and Spirits
Crown Sparkling Ales

Ladies !

Do you want better
recommendation than this:

180,000 Bottles

The MILITARY PICKLE

Sold in London last year.

Buy One Bottle To-day

R. T. Pope,

**THE LEADING DRAPER,
KAIKOURA.**

Keep your eye on this house and your
mind on our Bargains.

fully. 'I won't call myself poor as long as I have you, Mary.'

There were few happier or more thankful hearts than those of the shabby bookkeeper and his good wife, despite their enforced self-denial and numerous privations. Their souls were filled with a calm and serene trust that the same kind Providence which had guarded and guided them hitherto would continue its beneficent care and protection. Mrs. Warner took up her knitting, and Job proceeded to adjust his spectacles, preparatory to reading, when he was interrupted by a quick, sharp, decisive knock on the outer door.

Taking a tallow candle from the table, Job went to the door and opened it. The wind caused his candle to flicker, so that he did not at first recognise the visitor. When he did his heart gave a sudden bound, and in his surprise he nearly let fall the light.

It was his employer, Mr. John Bentley, who stood before him.

'Well, Warner, may I come in?' inquired the merchant, with an unwonted kindness in his tone.

'To be sure, Mr. Bentley, sir; I shall be most happy if you will condescend to enter my poor dwelling. It isn't suitable for such a visitor, but you are heartily welcome, sir. This way, if you please.'

Mrs. Warner looked up as her husband re-entered the room. Her surprise was little less than his when Mr. Bentley was introduced.

'Mary, this is Mr. Bentley, my respected employer, who has condescended to honor us with a visit. I am sorry we have no better place to receive him in.'

'No apologies, Warner,' said Mr. Bentley, pleasantly, throwing aside his usual pompous manner. 'I didn't expect you could live like a prince on seven hundred dollars. Mrs. Warner, I am glad to make your acquaintance. Your husband has served our house long and faithfully, and I trust will continue long in our employ. I am glad he has so much to make his home pleasant.'

No one knew better how to pay a compliment gracefully than John Bentley, and Mrs. Warner bowed in gratification, reiterating the assurance of their pleasure in receiving him. The allusion to her husband's continued services dissipated an apprehension to which Mr. Bentley's unexpected visit had given rise, that he might be about to lose his situation.

'I have called, Warner, on a little business,' proceeded Mr. Bentley. 'You spoke to me to-night about having your salary raised.'

'Yes, sir,' said Job, humbly. 'I thought afterwards that I might be a little presumptuous in supposing my services to be worth more than seven hundred dollars; but, indeed, sir, it requires a great deal of economy to make both ends meet. I was thinking more of that than of my own qualifications, I suppose. As you said, sir—'

'Never mind what I said, Warner,' interrupted the merchant, smiling. 'Your application was made unexpectedly. I have thought over what you said, and decided that your application was just and proper. Prices have advanced considerably, as a little investigation has satisfied me. Therefore, I have concluded to grant your request. What increase of salary do you ask?'

'I thought of asking you for a hundred dollars more,' said Job, timidly; 'but if you think that is too much, I should be satisfied and grateful if you could let me have fifty.'

'Do you think you could get along on fifty?' asked Mr. Bentley.

'Yes, sir—with economy, of course. I always expect to practise economy, and I have a good wife who knows how to make the most of a little.'

'That I can readily believe,' said the merchant, politely. 'You may consider your salary raised, then, Warner,' he proceeded. 'And as you have been able to get along on seven hundred dollars, I hope you will be able to afford yourself some additional comforts on a thousand.'

'A thousand!' repeated Job and his wife simultaneously.

'Yes, my good friends,' said Mr. Bentley; 'I have decided that my assistant bookkeeper is fully worth that sum to the firm, and it is my wish to pay those whom I employ what they are justly entitled to.'

'How can I ever thank you, sir?' exclaimed Job, rising and seizing his employer's hand. 'I shall consider myself rich with such an income. Mary, did you understand? I am to have a thousand dollars.'

'Sir, you are very kind,' said Mary, simply. 'I need not thank you. Your own heart will tell you how much happiness you have conferred upon us.'

'I understand and appreciate what you say,' said Mr. Bentley, kindly. 'But, Warner,' he continued, 'there is another matter about which I wish to speak to you. There is a young girl in whom I feel an interest, who is unfortunate enough to stand alone in the world, without

father or mother. I have thought that if you and Mrs. Warner would be willing to receive her as one of your family, and bring her up in the same careful manner as your own children, it would be an excellent arrangement for her, while I would take care that you lost nothing by your kindness.'

'We shall be most happy to oblige you, sir,' said Mrs. Warner. 'But would our plain style of living suit the young lady? We shall, to be sure, be able now to afford a better house.'

'I don't think the young lady will find any fault with your housekeeping, Mrs. Warner,' said the merchant, especially as she has probably never been accustomed to living as well as she would with you.'

Mrs. Warner looked mystified.

Mr. Bentley smiled.

'The young lady is already in your house,' he explained. 'In fact, it is the friendless little orphan whom your husband encountered to-night and brought home.'

Mrs. Warner's face lighted up with pleasure.

'We will undertake the charge gladly,' she answered; 'and would have done so if you had not spoken of it. Is it not so, Job?'

'Yes, Mary, it occurred to me as soon as Mr. Bentley spoke of raising my salary.'

'And you would really have undertaken such a charge at your own expense?' said Mr. Bentley, wonderingly. 'Would it have been just to your own children to diminish their comforts for the sake of doing a charitable action?'

'We shall not be able to leave our children money,' said Mrs. Warner, simply, 'but we hope to train them up to deeds of kindness. There's a great deal of suffering in the world, sir. We ought to do our part toward relieving it.'

'I honor you, Mrs. Warner, for your unselfish benevolence,' returned Mr. Bentley, warmly; 'but in this case I shall claim to do my part. I shall allow you two hundred dollars a year for taking care of this child. You will, of course, require a larger and more commodious house, and will, I hope, be enabled to afford your children such advantages as they may require to prepare them to act their parts in the world.'

'Two hundred dollars!' exclaimed Job, scarcely crediting the testimony of his ears. 'Why, that will make twelve hundred. Mr. Bentley, sir, I hope you will believe me to be grateful. You have so laden me with benefits that I don't know how to thank you.'

'And I am under obligations to you, Warner, also,' said Mr. Bentley. 'Prosperity had begun to harden my heart. At any rate, it had made me thoughtless of the multitudes who are struggling with ills which my wealth could alleviate. To night I was an unseen witness of your kindness to the poor girl who crossed your path. I felt rebuked by the contrast between your conduct and mine, and I resolved, God helping me, to become hereafter a better steward of His bounty.'

'Indeed, Mr. Bentley, you think too much of the little I did,' said Job, modestly.

'Let me keep my own opinion as to that, Warner. By the way, it may be well for me to pay the first quarter of our little charge in advance. Here are fifty dollars. At the expiration of six months you may draw upon me for a similar amount. Before I leave you let me take the liberty to suggest that you still have an opportunity of providing Christmas gifts for your children.'

'So I shall. Thank you, Mr. Bentley, for kindly reminding me. Effie shall have her doll after all. Such a doll!' he explained, eagerly turning toward his wife. 'She is as fine as a royal princess. But not too good for Effie.'

'By all means let Effie have her doll,' said Mr. Bentley, smiling. 'I must bid you good night, Mrs. Warner. But when you have moved I will look you up again, and shall hope to make the acquaintance of Effie and her doll.'

Job Warner was absent an hour. When he returned he was fairly loaded down with gifts. I cannot undertake to enumerate them. Enough that prominent among them was Effie's stately present. Can the friendly reader imagine the delight of the children the next morning? Seldom has Christmas dawned on a happier household. Effie was in a perfect ecstasy of delight. Nor was the little outcast forgotten. When her rags were stripped off and she was attired in thick, warm clothing, she seemed suddenly to have been lifted into Paradise.

Do you wish to send a Christmas or New Year Memento or Parcel to any relative or friend either in the Home Country or some other country abroad? If so, you will find the New Zealand Express Company's system the cheapest, best, quickest, and surest method. Parcels called for and delivered anywhere. Reduced tariff. Branches and agencies everywhere.

DARLING DOWNS, QUEENSLAND.

DWAN BROS., WELLINGTON, N.Z.

WE have for Sale in the DARLING DOWNS, QUEENSLAND—

6000 ACRES Freehold, 13 miles from railway; fenced into 7 paddocks; good house, plenty water, rolling downs, lightly timbered in places; carrying 1½ sheep to the acre all the year round. Price, £3 10s per acre.

4211 ACRES Freehold, fenced, new house; 200 acres under wheat cultivation; permanently watered; carrying one sheep to the acre on natural grasses. Price, £3 5s per acre, Stock 3000 sheep; valuation; 1½ miles from railway line.

2870 ACRES, Freehold, rich black soil plains; 1½ sheep to the acre; on natural grasses, fenced, well watered. Price £4 per acre, or will rent for a term at £530 per annum; 2000 sheep, 140 cattle, and 10 horses at valuation.

1038 ACRES Freehold, first-class land, black soil, heavily grassed; carrying 1½ sheep to the acre; 300 acres cultivated, including 100 acres lucerne; splendidly watered.

31,000 ACRES Freehold, fenced homestead well watered; carry 2 sheep to the acre; stock 18,000 sheep, 4000 cattle, 100 horses at valuation. Price £2 10s per acre.

20,000 ACRES, Leasehold; rental 1d per acre; 27 years; permanently watered; carrying capacity 10,000 sheep. Price £5500 cash.

Write to us and we will give you all information concerning this wonderful country.

DWAN BROS.,

WILLIS ST., WELLINGTON, N.Z.

MACARTHY & CLARK

HOUSE FURNISHERS,

UPHOLSTERERS

PIANO IMPORTERS.

PIANOS SOLD AT WHOLESALE PRICES.

Cash or Terms. Old Pianos taken in exchange for new ones. Old furniture repaired and made equal to new.

ARMAGH ST. CHRISTCHURCH.

RAILWAY HOTEL

THORNDON QUAY, WELLINGTON.

JAMES DEALY.....Proprietor.

This well-known Hotel is in close proximity to both Railway Stations, thereby offering great facility to the travelling public of being able to leave by the early trains.

Guests may depend upon being called to time, a porter being kept for that purpose.

The Bedrooms are well and comfortably furnished, and the Fittings and Accommodation throughout is all that could be desired.

The Wines and Spirits are all of the choicest and Best Brands. Dunedin XXXX Beer always on tap.

Table d'Hotel daily from 12 to 2, and Meals at All Hours for Travellers. Free Stabling.

J. Flyger & Co

UNDERTAKERS AND EMBALMERS

New Premises:

222 CUBA ST.

Telephone (day or night) 1073

Prompt attention given to all orders

Large stock of Artificial Wreaths always on hand

JAMES SHAND & CO.

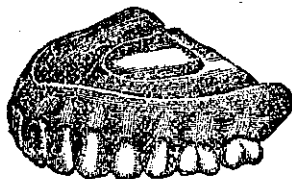
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS

AND

GENERAL IMPORTERS

AVON BOND.....OXFORD TERRACE
OFFICES.....209 HEREFORD ST., CHRISTCHURCH

IF YOU WANT



TO ENJOY YOUR MEALS you must have teeth that will do the work, for your Imperfect teeth cause imperfect mastication and that makes for bad health. Our knowledge of dentistry and extended experience gives us the ability to treat your teeth to ensure the most satisfactory results. We offer you high-class work at moderate prices.

Our Work is Strictly High Grade

Full Sets of Teeth (Upper and Lower) £4/4

Plain Extraction 1/-

Our Work is Strictly High Grade

Single Tooth, 5/-

Painless Extraction, 2/6

Each Extraction Under Gas (Gas given free) 2/6

Any number of Teeth up to Thirty-two easily extracted with one application of Gas

.....Complete Sets of Teeth Made in One Day If Required

FROST AND FROST

SURGEON DENTISTS

WILLIS STREET (50 yards above Manners St), WELLINGTON

Open Saturday Evenings till 9 o'clock

Write for further particulars

BY WARRANT

OF APPOINTMENT

W. SEY..

Painter and
. . . . DecoratorWholesale and Retail Paperhangings, Oil,
Colour and Glass Warehouse

107—COLOMBO STREET, CHRISTCHURCH—107

NEW SEASON'S WALL PAPERS, beautiful designs, rich colourings, at reasonable prices, carefully selected from the best British manufacturers. Also a large selection of other artistic decorative materials—Linocrusta, Anaglypta, Lignomur, Cordelova, Fabricona, Cellings, Friezes and Dadoes, for interior decoration. Samples sent free on application to any part of the colony.

"Bon Accord" Sanitary Paint, "Bon Accord" Metallic Paint, Oils, Varnishes, Brushwares, Plate Glass, Mirror Plate Glass, &c., &c.,

The Wellington Piano Co. Ltd.

124 Lambton Quay

* * *

Sole Agent for PIANOS manufactured by

Bluthner (as supplied to the Convent, Wellington), Challen, Hillier, Pleyel, Neufeld, Rogers, Hansen, Romhildt, Rosbach Zimmerman and other makers.

Sole Agents for the following makers of ORGANS:

Hillier, Carpenter, Farrand, Packard, Mustel, Hamilton, Clough and Warren, Positive, Etc.

Sole Agents for Boosey and Co's Band Instruments

Instruments can be purchased at Lowest Cash Prices, or on the Hire Purchase system, by means of a Small Deposit and Easy Monthly Payments, by both town and country residents.

Second-Hand Instruments will be taken in part payment for new ones.

MUSIC—A large and varied assortment of Music, both Vocal and Instrumental, is stocked and supplemented by regular monthly shipments of the Latest Compositions

Tuning and Repairing by Competent Men a speciality.

* * *

The Wellington Piano Company, Limited

A. F. ROBERTSHAW, Manager

W A V E R L E Y HOTEL

QUEEN STREET, AUCKLAND.

MAURICE O'CONNOR (late of Christchurch and Dunedin) begs to notify that he has taken over the above favorite hotel, close to train and wharf. Splendid view of harbor.

Best Brands of Wines and Spirits Always on Hand.

MAURICE O'CONNOR.

Current Topics

A Greeting

We wish all our readers the best joys of

'The happy night
That to the cottage, as the crown,
Brought tidings of salvation down;

and the choicest blessings of Him

'Whose quickening birth
Gives life and lustre, public mirth,
To heaven and the under earth.'

And at every season of the circling year, we wish all our readers the good conscience which, says Franklin, is a continuous Christmas.

A Commendable Reform

A paragraph that is going the rounds of the press states that 'the Wanganui Hotelkeepers' Association some time ago decided to restrict persons addicted to excessive drinking. At their last meeting, two more names of habitual drinkers were added to the list, and the persons interested have been requested to discontinue their visits to the hotels for the purpose of procuring intoxicating liquor.'

Bible-burning

Our readers will readily recall the storms of frantic feeling which a few years ago circled around the burning of some worn and torn and battered Bibles at Naililili in Fiji. A small box, containing old and soiled Catholic prayer-books, a few damaged Bibles (Protestant version) belonging to some converts to the faith, and other pious objects, was treated with that cleansing mark of respect with which the Catholic Church has from time immemorial treated sacred vestments and other things that have gone beyond their use. And now (according to the Melbourne *Advocate* of December 5) the Bible in the local District Court was ordered by the magistrates to be burned. And yet, curiously enough, none of the people who stormed and raved over the Naililili affair have gone on fire. 'This action,' says the *Advocate*, 'was taken at the instigation of Dr. Kauffman, who, by the way, is an Orangeman.' But the clergy who steamed like Whakarewarewa fumaroles over the Fiji incident are now as undemonstrative as so many dabs of putty.

That 'Relic of Barbarism'

The agitation arising out of the prohibited Eucharistic procession in London has already begun to score. The rather jaunty and supercilious refusal of Mr. Asquith to deal with the question of Catholic disabilities has been followed by the second-thought with which justice sometimes overtakes and trips up wrong. A cable message in last week's daily papers runs as follows:—'Earl Crewe, in reply to a question in the House of Lords, announced that the Government would shortly submit a proposal, hoping, with the co-operation of the Opposition, to arrive at a satisfactory solution of the King's accession declaration.'

The infusion of some truth and decency into that 'relic of barbarism' will be a welcome step in the path of complete religious tolerance towards Catholics in the British Isles.

Boomerang Electioneering

The too eager greyhound of an overruns his hare; the impetuous politician runs the risk of overvaulting his purpose; and the precipitate assailant meets at times with poetic justice, and gets laid up for alterations and repairs. During the election campaign of 1905, for instance, there was published in Dunedin, in the columns of a short-lived little 'yellow' gutter-journal, a coarse attack upon New Zealand Catholic womanhood that was clearly intended to steel the stalwarts of the lodges, and others of their way of thinking, to vote in particular way at the approaching contest. The article in question produced, however, a result which the writer probably neither foresaw nor intended. Copies of the journal in question were eagerly sought for and circulated among Catholic women voters in one of the electorates. The indignation aroused among them brought to the polls on that occasion probably the

largest Catholic women's vote ever registered there, and exercised, we understand, an effect upon the result that the article writer could not well have desired. Catholics in this Dominion exercise their parliamentary vote precisely as their political preferences and leanings suggest, without either guidance or dictation of any sort from their ecclesiastical leaders. And this is but right and proper. The mortgaged Catholic 'block vote' is one of the fictions of electioneering that are pressed into electioneering purposes. There is only one way of organising a Catholic 'block vote' in any particular constituency. And that is, not by organisation or dictation from within (for such a course would neither be adopted nor tolerated), but by coarse and vehement attack from without, such as that which aroused the just indignation of Catholic womanhood in a Dunedin electorate in 1905.

A similar story of anti-Catholic attack and Catholic resentment was told to the London *Times* a few weeks ago by its Ottawa correspondent. An attempt (similar to one that found a strident voice in a Wanganui paper before the recent general elections) was made by some Canadian Orangemen to inflame religious passion against the brilliant and versatile Liberal leader, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, at the late parliamentary contest, on account of his profession and practice of the Catholic faith. The *Toronto Sentinel* (the organ of the lodges) raised the editorial clamor against Sir Wilfrid on religious grounds. It was reprinted, for circulation among voters of 'the right sort' only. 'To Liberals,' said the *Toronto Mail and Empire*, 'this production was a bonanza. It was the very thing for which they had been looking. The demand for the pamphlet became flattering to its author. It was impossible to fill all the orders. The Liberal managers, unable to secure the large numbers of copies they needed, printed more for their own use. They even had the production translated into various languages. There were German copies for Germans, and French copies for the French. Condensed issues were also circulated for those who merely wanted to get at the pith of the argument.' The too eager *Sentinel*, in fact, grievously overshot its purpose. The effect of a pamphlet of this kind,' says the Ottawa correspondent of the London *Times*, 'placed in the hands of wavering Roman Catholics at the last moment can well be understood. Thousands of votes were lost to the Conservative party. I have,' adds he, 'reports from fully a dozen ridings where it was effective in electing Liberals, and where, under ordinary circumstances, the seats would have gone to the Opposition. The lesson is obvious.'

The 'Missing Link' Again

Many of our readers will remember the old-fashioned, cottage-shaped weather-glass (on the hygrometer principle) in which the figure of a man comes out through a spring doorway to indicate approaching rain, and the figure of a woman to foretell sunshiny days—the lady 'waits till the clouds roll by.' When Darby is out, Joan is in; and when Joan is out Darby is not visible. The sea-serpent and the 'missing link' seem to have got into a similar habit. One or other of the pair is commonly due about this season of the year. We cannot recall their simultaneous arrival. The sea-serpent made, during the past few years, two consecutive bows before a very thin audience and promptly played the vanishing trick. It was, therefore, 'up to' the 'missing link' to go and do likewise. And this he has obligingly done. For, since the last appearance of the sea-serpent, he has shown up (alive and frisky) in the Northern Territory (Australia) and, last week, mouldy and dusty and as dead as Holofernes, at Corrèze, in the central plateau of France. So much we learn from a cable message from Paris, which appeared in last week's daily papers, and which conveys the rather hazy and doubtful information that some remains found at Chapelle aux Saints, Corrèze, are 'supposed to be the "missing link" between ape and man.'

But people have 'found' the 'missing link' just as other people are said to have 'caught' the elusive and exasperating Irish elf, the leprechaun, or Puck the Fairy—

'The spite
Of the merry midnight,
Who laughs at weak mortals, and loves the moonlight.'

The Dunedin & Suburban Coal Co.

TELEPHONE 401

are still at 29 CASTLE STREET, and will supply you with any kind of Coal or Firewood you want at LOWEST RATES. Smithy Coals supplied.

Thus, the historic Neanderthal skull was deemed by some to belong to some such ape-man. But it is long since understood that the peculiar formation of the Neanderthal brain-box was simply due to disease. Twenty years ago Professor Dubois claimed to have found some dead 'missing links' in the wilds of Java. But they have not yet 'materialised.' Darkest Africa has also been made the scene of some alleged discoveries of 'missing links.' But the links remain missing still. And, finally, one or two years ago (as stated) the cable announced a living specimen of the 'missing link' among a tribe of blacks in the Northern Territory of Australia. Examination and second thoughts, however, pretty promptly showed that the alleged half-ape, half-man, was in form a perfect man, gifted with the intelligence, the speech, and the other special human faculties that make an unbridgeable chasm between the highest ape and the most degraded of our fellow-creatures. Some hasty generaliser labelled that fine dark specimen of humanity a 'missing link' for no better reason than that the alleged 'link' had a deformed big toe! A well-known American humorist liked 'a good looking man'; 'not a pretty man,' added he, 'but one who looks well—into things, one whom you can't phule with a mare's nest, unless he sees the old mare on it.' That hasty Northern Territory observer did not look well into things, and discovered, not the 'missing link,' but merely a mare's nest.

'The mass of palæontological evidence,' says the late Mr. Mivart in his *Genesis of Species* (p. 129), 'is indeed overwhelmingly against minute and gradual modification' of animals and plants, which is demanded by genetic evolution. The gaps that exist in the animal kingdom correspond to the gaps that are found throughout all geological history, so far as it has been explored. Says Gérard, in his *The Old Riddle* (pp. 228-9): 'It is this total absence of graduated series, linking different forms together, that is the great and fundamental difficulty in the way of genetic evolution. Yet this seems seldom to be realised, and it seems constantly to be assumed that, in order to establish the genetic continuity of two creatures, no more is required than to discover another standing more or less between them. Thus, in the most famous of all instances, how often do we hear of "the missing link" between man and ape—as though, should a generalised form be disclosed, which might be considered a common ancestor, the question of man's simian [monkey] origin would be finally settled! In the same way, as we have seen, the existence of birds with reptilian features, is taken by some as conclusive proof that birds and reptiles have descended from one stock. But what is most imperatively wanted, is persistently wanting—namely, some evidence of a series in which one form passes to another, as in a dissolving view. And yet, genetic evolutionists must suppose such series to have been the universal rule throughout the whole course of life on earth.'

If their theory were true, the earth should be peppered all over with the various stages of the ape's efforts to become a man. But the 'missing links' are not alone missing; they are missing just where we should be stumbling over them in myriads. And the true scientist—who does not make a theory into a dogma of science—may well say as did Sir Charles Lyell (Darwin's close friend and admirer) after he had realised all the bearings of the Darwinian theory: 'I think the old "creation" is almost as much required as ever' (*Life of Darwin*, vol. ii., p. 193).

SEASONABLE PLEA

Help, Lord, the poor and suffering,
In hamlet and in city;
To all the poor give Patience,
To all the rich give Pity.

—Rev. Matthew Russell, S.J.

BEST GIFTS.

A thousand wishes I would send,
My thought of you confessing;
And all are in the boon I pray,
The little Christ-Child's blessing.

—Ave Maria.

THE GLEAMS OF HOPE FOR FRANCE

INTERESTING PARTICULARS BY THE ARCH-BISHOP OF HOBART

Writing from Paris on October 21 (says the Tasmanian *Monitor*) his Grace the Archbishop of Hobart gives some interesting impressions concerning present Church conditions in France. He writes: 'I arrived here last evening, accompanied by Father Cullen, whom I am taking to the University of Fribourg. We resume our journey tomorrow, but I must break it at Dijon to see my old attached friend of university years here in Paris, Bishop Dadolle. He is now reputed one of the leading men of the French Hierarchy. How wonderfully all things here seem changed to me! Thirty years must, of course, have brought changes of no small moment in any case, and then our own angle of vision widens out as time speeds by with accumulated experiences. But here the changes are quite unusual. And as you will readily anticipate the changes that engage my attention have to do with religion.

Increase of Practical Piety.

Early this grey misty morning we repaired to the nearest parish church, a fine structure in the round arch style, with deep triforium and lofty clerestory, and flanked with a goodly array of chapels. It was opened only five years ago. As we entered three Masses were being celebrated till well on towards 10 o'clock. Now, while we were in this church fresh worshippers were arriving, so that the total number who came this morning to this one parish church must have reached several hundreds. And, of course, it was but an ordinary week day. There was no special devotion whatever on this day. Furthermore, at each Mass celebrated at the altar in which the tabernacle stands a surprisingly large number communicated. I celebrated at that altar myself. And although you naturally will expect that women show up more numerous than men, still the number and quality of the pious men worshippers is really striking.

A Most Serious Symptom.

Yet the ugly fact remains uncontested that Clemenceau is the master; that in short there is no appreciable change in the political situation. Bye-elections in England have been going dead against a party which scored as high at the general elections as the Clemenceau-Briand party in this country. Yet here the bye elections indicate no real change in public opinion. The victims of the oppressive regime themselves seem to despair of safety from the electoral urns now or hereafter. And this is, to my thinking, a most unfortunate frame of mind and a most serious symptom. For the hardships inflicted in the name and by the authority of Parliament are almost beyond endurance, even for a people less emotional and less irascible than the French. And if the victims come to lose hope in the one means of redress which a Parliamentary regime affords, what remains to them but a wistful yearning—to put it the mildest—after some extraordinary development spelling ruin for the power that grinds them down so remorselessly? And then unhappily a third party—the party of monarchical ambitions, the Duke of Orleans' insatiate camp-followers, utterly regardless of the hardships they precipitate on defenceless priests, and yet more defenceless children given over to a system of education which has become increasingly an atheistic propaganda, fan the ready flames of anti-governmentism into the perilous fires of anti-republicanism. This puts Catholics into a wholly wrong, and a wholly inconsistent position. It is a wrong position, because, as Leo XIII. was at pains to insist in season and out of season, and as Catholic theology always implied, Republicanism is not inconsistent with Catholicism. A good Catholic may be an equally enthusiastic Republican. And they sin against consistency, because as Catholics they have been all along in strong condemnation of the great Revolution, and that, too, for being a revolution. Now, no one can deny that the monarchists aim at supplanting the form of government which actually, and for thirty odd years holds the field, and which came into existence through no republican violence whatever. It is all a sad additional illustration of men losing faith in constitutional measures, and in sheer desperation suffering themselves to be carried along against both their interest and their proper principles by self-appointed guides more astute and selfish than those they seduce.

College of St. Sulpice.

Here we are in the midst of ruins. The fine old College of St. Sulpice, in which I lived happy days, stares me to-day in sulkily emptiness. Indeed, I dare not enter its gates. It is black and neglected by the Government which has forcibly taken it over. Meanwhile, the former

'It's selling well, because it's satisfying well.' Hondai Lanka Tea represents 'the most for the money.'

'Be kind tae auld Graunie.' Ladies appreciate a box of Hondai Lanka as a Christmas present.

house of Philosophy at Issy, outside the fortifications, harbors 300 ecclesiastical students who are reading, some their two years' course in philosophy, the others, their three years in theology. One additional year in theology is read at a rented house in the city. Since my time, an immense amount of superb building has been carried out at Issy by the Sulpician Fathers who have charge of it. And just picture to yourself the state of a country in which this work of theirs is likely, at an early date, to be taken over forcibly by the Government, just like the house in the city! Of course, the Government are always ready with the same parrot cry, 'Why did you not form an "Association of Worship," as we told you to do?' They knew perfectly well in devising their pet expedient of those 'Associations of Worship' that Catholics would not, because they could not, have recourse to them. It was the generosity of the fox inviting the crane to dine on soup off a shallow dish. They knew what they were doing.

The Catholic University of Paris.

I visited my old university. The students are not yet back. They return for the opening of term on November 3. But the rector was at home, and I had a talk with him. I regret, and he regretted, that Professor Branly was out. He is, as the immense majority of the professors are, a layman. Of course, they are all excellent Catholics. It will be within your memory that it was this Professor Branly of the Paris Catholic University who experimented with a view to catch the well-known Hertz waves. He pursued his researches till he found the secret. He was able to announce the discovery that those wonderful waves were obedient to silver filings. Like the lover of knowledge for its own sake, he gave his discovery to the world. Young Marconi took it up, and it makes him a rich notability while Branly remains a modest, hard-working professor in his beloved Catholic University. This university has suffered a great loss within the present year in the death of Professor de Lapparent—one really of the first physicists of modern times. He, too, was a layman, but how truly Catholic!—The students last year numbered six hundred, of whom about one-tenth were in the faculty of theology.

Will be Probably Confiscated in 1910.

I expressed disappointment at the little improvement in buildings. I had seen such splendid work in that line at the Catholic University of Fribourg! The Rector sadly answered me that the property was merely held on lease, and that in 1910, when the lease expired, the Government would probably confiscate it like all the other 'ecclesiastical establishments.' Remember, the Government—in fact no Government ever gave a shilling directly or indirectly towards the foundation or upkeep of this University. But simply because it was held in trust for the Church under the Archbishop of Paris—was what is technically part of the 'mense'—it is taken, or will be taken, as soon as the present lease terminates. And all under the pretence that as no 'Association of Worship' exists to administer it, the Government is obliged to find it an owner! All this is very sad; and it is but a drop in the bucket of instances which depress the Catholic in passing through this once Catholic land.

A Press Congress.

Coming back from Issy, I fell in with a couple of priests who, I found, were going to a Congress of *la bonne presse*. It has been in session for a day of two. I went to see, and was interested. The editor-in-chief of the *Croix*, a layman, was in the chair. The hall was well filled with priests and laymen and a fair sprinkling of women: I should say women who did not idly come to see. I was asked to sit on the chairman's right hand and to open the proceedings with prayer. As I said that I wanted above all things to see and hear what they were at, the proceedings began with the item on the programme, an address of an entirely practical scope and tone by a strenuous looking priest of about 34. He dealt with the use and practice of the magic lantern in popular lectures. He was followed by a layman, who confined himself to a report of the work done in the past year by the magic-lantern wing of the Association of the Catholic Press. It is only right to add that few papers but the *Croix* are in this association. Not that the others do not sympathise with the work; but it is an organisation which owes its origin and development to that one paper.

They do Things Differently in Germany.

I think this is characteristic of French Catholicism to-day; there are ever so many initiatives here, there, and everywhere, prospering or languishing as the case may be, but not nearly enough of co-ordinated exertion. How different all this is from the situation in Germany. I must, by and by, give you some outline of what I saw and enjoyed at the great Catholic Congress of Dusseldorf. London was dazzling as a mitred spectacle. Dusseldorf thrilled all present with the powerful current of a master-

ful Catholic life. The millions were at our back, and no mistake. Everyone knew it. The Emperor knew it as well as we. He did not fail to send his telegram of greeting in his own dramatic fashion, which, of course, was read and received with the plaudits of an entirely loyal people. There is no dream there of constitutional tampering. But there is a fixed resolve to use the constitution at the ballot box and in Parliament in defence of equal rights to all citizens.

Dread of Politics.

But to return to this Congress. I was sorry I had to leave early. All knelt to receive my blessing. I left, full of admiration for the exhaustless zeal and energy of so many good Catholic men, and of regret that they cannot find the remedy for their divisions. But with so much good will in all ranks, it can only be a matter of time. We may find that from the ranks of the rising generation of priests, a new world of ideas, a new social order may come about. The older clergy were true to the maxim that wherever the priest's duty lay, it could not possibly lay in the region of politics. That had settled into a fixed habit with both priests and laity. It is amusing to read of the political plottings of the clericals of France. Why the utter dread of politics in the French ecclesiastic had reached the fatal point. Under the Concordat, indeed, they could not have meddled in politics. Now they are free, because they cannot be robbed any further, unless of life.

A Gleam of Hope.

But the habit is too much for them. They will tell you that what France needs is a good press; this, that, and everything, in fact, appears to them to be the need. But they never will admit that the priest can be of the least use in politics. When I remarked to several of them that no priest need or ought to treat of politics in the Church; but that as a citizen he surely had the common right, and, as Dr. Clifford evidently believes in his own case, the duty as well, to speak of politics and politicians on the common meeting ground of fellow-citizens, they could not hear of it. Now the younger men are talking on the magic-lantern, a very innocuous subject indeed. But when men come face to face at lectures in a hall, they will soon pass to the discussion of burning questions, when there are burning questions.

The One Thing Necessary.

One remark, however, to conclude: France can never regain her old Catholic faith until she has seriously resolved to abandon the lesson which her false 'philosophers' have taught her. She must learn to become clean in order to become once more believing.

A Pleasant Meeting.

Writing from Dijon on October 22, the Archbishop says: In my letter of last evening I said that I intended breaking the journey here at Dijon in order to see my fellow-student of thirty years ago at the Catholic University of Paris. Twenty years ago he came to Vichy to see me, but I hardly expected he would recognise me now, unannounced. I put him to the test, and he flew to embrace me with the old exclamation, 'Cher Monsieur Delany!' It was pleasant to each of us to feel that in a crowd we should have recognised the old faces.

One of Pius the Tenth's Bishops.

Well, for many reasons this is a pleasant meeting. In the first place, Bishop Dadolle is regarded all round as the leading personage amongst the fourteen new bishops whom Pius X. gave, and personally consecrated, to the French Church as soon as the abolition of the Concordat had untied his hands. And the new men count for most. The senior members of the Hierarchy were, many of them, already far advanced in years, and the sudden plunge into wholly inexperienced conditions weighed upon many with fatal depression. They have borne the burden with Christian resignation, but it has shortened their lives.

Bishop Dadolle's Hopeful Views.

The new men were carefully chosen, and it is clear that they face the future with renewed spirits. As a complement, then, to what I wrote you last evening—and it is true in all details—I will give you the substance of Dr. Dadolle's replies to my various queries. I think this will be of permanent interest.

1. Since the rupture with the Church it is a safe estimate to place the accession to the ranks of earnest worshippers at twenty-five per cent.

2. Twenty years ago there were hardly any evidences amongst young men of an organised courageous effort in defence of religion. To-day the Young Men's Societies are marvellously flourishing. In this city of Dijon quite lately two thousand members of the Catholic Young Men's Societies of the diocese assembled in Congress and took everyone by surprise, not merely by their numbers, but still more by the uncompromisingly religious spirit they displayed.

'I wish ye weel' A box of Hondai Lanka makes a splendid Christmas greeting. A substantial gift!

'Begin the New Year right!' Commence using 'Hondai Lanka' Pure Ceylon Tea—delicious and most economical.

3. In spite of the wholesale confiscation of church property perpetrated by the Government, not a single Catholic enterprise has been abandoned, and considerable extensions have already been undertaken. More has, in fact, been done to widen out the field of Church activity in the last two years of freedom, if of poverty, than stood to the credit of twenty years under the previous regime. The Bishop received me, not in the time-honored palace of his predecessors—that has been confiscated, and he was turned out of it; but, as he smilingly remarked, he is now, at all events, 'at home.' Apostolic poverty, but apostolic freedom, without loss of dignity. Well, all this shows that there are Catholics enough of the true stamp left in this country to support the burdens of a Catholic revival. And the Bishop firmly believes in that revival.

4. On the sore point of politics—which I dealt with in yesterday's letter—let me sum up the views of this eminent and commanding member of the French Hierarchy:—

The past is done for good and all. Only a political cataclysm could restore the old order of things, and even then could probably not bring about any improvement. As sane men the Catholics must not attend to an hypothesis so improbable. The Republic came in without violence, and was established in quite a legitimate way. Like any form of government, it is good or bad just as the men who hold the helm are good or bad. After a spell of thirty-seven years it has displaced the memory of former regimes in the minds of the immense majority of the people. To them any previous form sounds remote to-day. Nine-tenths of the people probably desire no constitutional change. On the other hand, it is premature in all probability for the clergy to take even that legitimate part in public life which is the right and even the duty of the ordinary citizen—that is to say, to speak openly in the common haunts of men regarding the choice of candidates for Parliament. Of course, politics must be excluded from the Church; but at least for a while it seems necessary to forego the exercise of even the right of free speech; for the French clergy have been bred for ages to quite a different order of ideas. But another sphere lies open to them, and they are busying themselves in it with manifest results. Bishops and priests hold meetings and attend gatherings, the objects of which lie at the root of the social and economic welfare of the people. This is bringing both sides—clergy and people—to study serious problems of the hour together. The patent effect is a broadening out of view in priests and people and a growing sympathy and heartfulness. The politician is gradually being supplanted by the local mind. The Bishop did not, of course, instance his own signal efforts within the last three years; but these were well known to me already from what I had been told at Rome and elsewhere. His principle is this: Let us go to the people; let us sincerely help the people. If we do, the people will not fail to recognise our deserts, and they will hearken to our advice as their fathers did in their day to the clergy who worked for their welfare. And such a people may be trusted to solve the political troubles of their own selves. In face of the discouragement one meets with at older hands, this is refreshing, and the intelligence, the sincerity and the high standing of the young Bishop of Dijon warrant me in accepting his views as more in consonance with reality than the more sombre presentation of older and feebler men.

CATHOLICS AND PRISON STATISTICS

By the Rev. Charles J. Venning, S.M. (Catholic Chaplain to the Wellington Prison).

In a leading article in the *New Zealand Tablet* of December 10, 1908, appeared the following statement: 'It is, we believe, the experience of every priest who has been engaged in prison work in these countries—as we were for a time in three separate places—that many non-Catholic criminals have the habit of giving themselves Irish "aliases" and falsely designating themselves as Catholic. As for the rest, a very large percentage of them can lay claim to the name of Catholic solely by the fact of their Baptism. They live defiant to the laws of the Church; they assume a sham Catholicism when they find themselves within prison walls, only to shed it at the moment that they sniff again the air of freedom; and, so far as their lives go, their proper designation is not Catholics, but practical pagans. Is it not high time for sane people to abandon the controversial trick of making the Catholic Church, and her alone, responsible for the sins and follies of those who never acknowledged her authority, or who, having once acknowledged it, decline her guidance, reject her ministrations, and snap defiant fingers at her laws? Our prison statistics furnish no reliable evidence even as

to the number of "drunks" or other offenders for which the Dominion, or any given religious denomination in it, is responsible.'

Every Catholic chaplain in New Zealand can vouch for the truth of these statements. He knows full well that many of those before him, in the gaol benches, on any given Sunday, are not Catholics, and never were Catholics. Yet the river (or, shall we say, the Black Sea?) of calumny flows on for ever. There is at present no law by which these bogus 'Roman Catholics'—these unscrupulous sons of Ananias—can be punished. They are at liberty to put themselves down in the gaol records as 'Roman Catholics'—you cannot say nay to them! Quite a number take advantage of this easy method of 'receiving themselves into the Church.'

We hear much of the reading test for the admission of Chinese into this Dominion. Why not have some such test before a man could be admitted to the 'Catholic fold' of our prisons? Let the test be ever so simple; I am confident that many would not pass. The sign of the cross is a puzzle to some; the 'Hail Mary' is usually a 'poser,' and the 'Our Father'—well, yes, they often know that, but so many do persist in saying 'Our Father WHICH art in Heaven' (the Protestant form), when we naturally expect them to use the Catholic form, 'WHO art in Heaven.' Moreover, they are not satisfied with the plain Catholic ending, 'But deliver us from evil. Amen.' No. The tongues of these prison 'Roman Catholics' are impatient to tack on to the 'evil,' the familiar Protestant termination of the Lord's prayer: 'For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,' etc.

On a recent Sunday, when addressing this Catholic-Protestant-no-religion-at-all-congregation, in the Wellington Prison, an expression escaped me to this effect: 'Those of you who are Catholics will understand what is meant.' After the Mass, a prisoner (Catholic, I presume) remarked to me: 'Quite right; not a dozen out of the thirty are Catholics at all. I hear them talking about it every day.' Surely, this man's word is just as reliable as the statements made by those who love to style themselves 'Roman Catholic' only for the time they are in gaol.

Every Catholic prison chaplain is familiar with such Protestant expressions on the lips of alleged 'Roman Catholic' prisoners as 'The evening Mass,' or 'The only time I attend a Catholic service is when I am in gaol.' I remember one man, who was very anxious to receive Holy Communion while in gaol, asking me if he might have his breakfast first! Such are some of the 'Roman Catholics' who figure in the Blue Book.

The answer that some have given for turning 'Catholics' in gaol was that our service was not held so frequently as the services of other religious bodies. Hence they preferred the lesser of what appeared to them to be two evils. In Wellington we have increased the 'dose' of religious services to three, and sometimes four, each month—with very fair results so far, we believe.

Now for a few interesting facts. In March of the present year (1908), I went to some trouble to verify statements made by prisoners as to their religious allegiance. At the time I made the inquiry, there were some thirty-six men on the roll as 'Roman Catholics.' Weigh these few figures, then form what opinion you wish as to the genuineness of 'prison statistics' as given in the annual official reports. Of the thirty-six I found that *three* had never been baptised at all by any priest, 'or any lay man or woman.' Yet these three were proud to be 'Catholics'—while in gaol. Two of the three were serving considerable sentences for most serious offences—rape and indecency. Of the thirty-six, I found that only *six* had ever been inside of a Catholic school, and some of them had been there (so they said) only for a short time. These figures will be interesting to Catholic readers. Of the thirty-six, I found that twenty-five had not made their first Communion. It was news to some of them to learn a few facts from the life of Jesus Christ!

Thus you see that three out of thirty-six were not Catholics, and never were, and eight and a third per cent. were set down as 'Roman Catholic' without the least claim to that title! And the far greater number of those who were baptised into the Church were in gaol through the absence of any Catholic influence in their early lives—they had been without a Catholic home, Catholic companions, Catholic teacher, Catholic school.

My latest experience took place on last Saturday afternoon. A 'Roman Catholic' came to see me during my visit to the gaol. He clumsily referred to some Catholic doctrine. My suspicions were at once aroused. On taxing him with deceit, in sailing under false colors, he owned up to the trick. He was not a Catholic—never had been. He then frankly told me that he was an Anglican, although I believe that he knows as much about the Church of England as he does about us. On asking him to make the sign of the cross, he blushed—oh, what a rosy blush! Then he described a circle with his *left* hand, using, I

might say, the point of his nose as the centre. Oh, yes, he liked Catholic services—they quite fascinated him. He thought he might as well be a Catholic as anything else. I suppose he will remain on the books as 'Roman Catholic' till doomsday. He intends to spend two Christmas days in gaol, if it so please his Majesty the King!

I may add that I have in my possession the names of the parties referred to in the course of this communication, and that these names will be available whenever required.

These few experiences may prove interesting to the readers of the *New Zealand Tablet* by showing them how prison statistics of religious beliefs are made in New Zealand. The official records are, in this respect, absolutely useless, so far as we are concerned. They prove nothing. They simply show that every criminal in New Zealand has his glorious 'liberty of speech' to say what he likes, as he likes, when he likes, where he likes in regard to his religious connection—the liberty to take up the rôle of 'Roman Catholic' as he crosses the threshold of the gaol, only to throw it aside as he would an old moth-eaten garment when leaving the gaol walls. He goes into the gaol as a visitor does to a fever ward of the hospital. He puts on a 'Roman Catholic' shroud to keep microbes from his sacred person, and throws the garment away when it has served his purpose. So it has ever been.

St. Mary's, Boulcott street, Wellington,
December 17, 1908.

THE ORIGIN OF THE CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

It is certain that at the end of the third century the birth of Our Lord was celebrated in both the Eastern and Western Churches. It is equally certain that at the beginning of the fifth century that feast was celebrated in the whole Christian Church (if we except the Donatists and the city of Jerusalem) on the 25th of December. But between these points there was much difference as to the day on which the birth of Our Lord was to be celebrated. The Acts of the Passion of St. Philip of Hieraclea show that the feast of Epiphany was observed in the Eastern Church at the end of the third century. Now it is sure that throughout the greater part of the fourth century the Easterns included the birth of Christ among the four reasons for that feast. Thus at that period of the Churches of Egypt, Syria, and Palestine celebrated the nativity of Christ on the 6th of January. St. Epiphanius, a writer of the latter half of the fourth century, is very positive as to the birth of Jesus on the latter date. St. Chrysostom, preaching on Christmas Day, 388, to the people of Antioch, defends the feast from the reproach of novelty, although he admits that in Syria it was then scarcely ten years old. Other Orientals of the early part of the third century, like Clement of Alexandria and Origen, seem to be ignorant of any celebration of the birth of Christ. The language of the latter almost excludes the supposition of such a feast in the capital of Egypt, while the former speaks of it in connection with some Gnostic heretics, who placed the date in April or May. The act of St. John Chrysostom was not an isolated one. In 379 St. Gregory Nazianzen, in union with the Emperor Theodosius the Great, introduced the feast into Constantinople. In 382 St. Gregory of Nyssa, brother of the great St. Basil, introduced it into Pontus and Cappadocia. Clearly it was the authority of the Roman See that, indirectly at least, compassed these notable liturgical acts. It is no small matter that, in face of local oppositions, Constantinople and Antioch should insert in the calendar a specific Roman feast.

The tradition of the 25th of December as the birthday of Our Lord is much earlier and more positive at Rome than in the Orient. St. Augustine speaks of it as an old custom in his time, and in this he is supported by St. Jerome, as well as by the Cappadocians, SS. Basil, Gregory Nazianzen, and Gregory of Nyssa. St. Chrysostom justified its introduction into Antioch by the example of Rome. wiser in this matter than the Orient. His judgment seems to have been influenced by a copy of the Augustan census of Judea, which according to him, was kept in a public place at Rome, and proved the birth of Christ at the Roman date. The

Apostolic Constitutions,

an episcopal manual compiled between A.D. 350 and 425, but containing a much earlier discipline, mention the 25th of December as the feast of the Nativity. Cave even cited Theophilus of Caesarea, a second century writer, for this date; the passage cited is from the acts of a council held at Caesarea in Palestine A.D. 190. These acts have come down to us through the writings of St. Bede, the famous historian of the English Church in the first quarter of the eighth century. Their genuineness is yet somewhat doubt-

ful, though the newest studies on St. Bede show that he was well versed in the most ancient Christian literature.

Very lately there has been discovered in a Greek monastery of the island of Chalcois a copy of the commentary of Hippolytus on Daniel, in the fourth book of which it is very clearly stated that Christ was born on the 25th of December. Possibly this is an interpolation, as some critics maintain. If it were genuine, we should have here a local tradition of the Roman Church in the early part of the third century vouched for by one of its most brilliant writers and officers. Such a tradition, so soon fixed in the public worship of the Roman Church, would bring us within hailing distance of the Apostolic memories and ordinances. Unexceptionable from every point of view is the notice in the Philocalian Calendar of A.D. 386 that Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea on December 25th. Shortly after, about the middle of the fourth century (354), we find St. Liberius receiving at Rome, on Christmas Day, the vows of Marcellina, the sister of St. Ambrose. With all these evidences of ancient origin it seems strange that the little ecclesiastico-astronomical tract, *De Pascha Computus*, of the year 243, written either in Italy or Africa, is silent about the feast of the 25th of December, or rather says positively that the birth of Jesus took place on March 28th; 'the day on which God created the sun was the fittest day for the birth of the Sun of justice.

The practice of celebrating

Three Masses

had its origin at Rome. The very old Mass-books, called the Gelasian and Gregorian Sacramentaries, contain each three Masses for the day. Anciently they were said at the time and in the order in which they are prescribed in the Missal, i.e., at midnight, before the aurora, and after sunrise. We know that in the sixth century, and probably earlier, the Pope was wont to say these three Masses at St. Mary Major's, St. Anastasia's (whose feast occurred that day), and at St. Peter's. Curiously enough, the preface of the Nativity, several collects, and many parts of the Masses remain identically what they were fourteen hundred years ago, so jealous is the Church of her liturgy and so capable of preserving it from substantial alteration. The midnight vigil of Christmas is the last relic of a very common custom in the first Christian ages of celebrating nocturnal vigils for the feasts of the saints. The attendant disorders discredited them, so that only the venerable vigil of the Nativity escaped. In the early middle ages all the people were expected to attend the midnight Mass and to communicate, under pain of three years' excommunication, as a means of compelling the performance of what we now call Easter duty. Perhaps this is the meaning of the tradition that the Emperor Justin (the first or the second) ordered Christmas to be everywhere celebrated, no doubt by confession and Communion, for it was a common feast long before the time of either Justin.

At an early date legend and fancy seized upon the feast and decked it out with

Charming Myths.

There are some few left from the Graeco-Roman time, such as the story that at the birth of Christ the Temple of Peace at Rome collapsed; that a spring of oil burst out in the Trastevere and flowed the whole day long into the Tiber; that Augustus saw in the air the Blessed Virgin with the Child in her arms and dedicated to them an altar of the First-born God. Pretty fancies! not unnatural in a people who project back upon their pagan past some small share of their new Christian consciousness. It was the Germanic peoples, however, who were destined to make the fortune of Christmas. It fell at a time when they were wont to celebrate their pagan sacrifices, and the missionaries prudently gave their traditional customs a Christian sense and direction. The rich cheer, the abundant presents, the lavish hospitality of their old pagan days were not abolished. Nor were the numerous Scandinavian ceremonies in honor of Yule, the log, the candle, the boar's head, the common feasting. The Lord of Misrule and the Abbot of Unreason continued the carnivalesque character of the northern Yuletide, while the mince pies and spice cakes recall the gross and barbarous wassailings of the primitive Goth and Saxon. Under men like Gregory, Augustine, and Theodore of Canterbury, Aldhelm and Daniel of Winchester, such habits were gradually modified, and within a short time the fierce pirates of the Northern seas gave to God saintly men like Wilfrid, Willibrod, Winfred (Boniface), and saintly women like Eadburg, Hilda, Lioba, and countless others. 'It is only by a long course of training that the fancy and imagination can be brought to run in the new groove of thought,' says Brother Azarnis in his *Development of English Thought*. To that end does the Church bring to bear all her teaching and discipline. By degrees she weeds out the tares of the old faith and plants the new. But there are also in every race and age

LANGFORD and RHIND

... (late W. and H. Langford),
16 LONDON ST. Phone 689

Funeral Furnishers
and Embalmers

P.O. BOX 523

Christchurch

Town Office—227 CASHIEL ST.

Phone, 519.

Addresses—HERBERT LANGFORD, 16 London St., Richmond.

JOHN RHIND, 48 Montreal St., Sydenham. Phone, 1602.

Phone, 689.

elect souls who are impatient of such slow formation and leap at once into the front rank of Christian heroes and heroines.

The public feasts of the Church furnished many opportunities for good in mediaeval days. In the absence of great cities and extensive commerce they served to gather the people together, to break down the isolation in which the noble and the peasant habitually lived. For a short while private war ceased, Christian charity prevailed, and the voice of the preacher was listened to by vast multitudes, who for another year perhaps would not again visit the haunts of men. The Church made the most of such occasions. Hence we need not be surprised to find that Christmas was at an early date one of the great feasts on which the mystery plays were executed. We possess a certain number of them yet, just as they were carried out in France and Southern Germany. They are quaint and comical to our modern taste, but were full of meaning to our ancestors, whose faith was so much more direct and intense. —Very Rev. Dr. Shanahan.

The Founder of the Society of Mary

The founder of the Society of Mary, who has just been declared Venerable by the Congregation of Rites at Rome, and who will henceforth be known as the Venerable Jean Claude Colin, was born in France, and while at the great seminary in Lyons studying for the priesthood he conceived the idea of founding an Order bearing the name and under the patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This was about the year 1816. Whilst at the seminary Jean Claude Colin was greatly admired by his teachers and his fellow-students for his piety, his modesty, and his love of study, and especially for his devotion to the Blessed Virgin. During the days of his preparation for the priesthood Jean Claude Colin confided to his spiritual director and some of his fellow-students his wish to see established a Congregation of priests under the standard of the Blessed Virgin Mary. All listened to his proposals with great sympathy, and showed their eagerness to assist him in the realisation of his hopes. The day of ordination at length arrived, and before the newly-ordained departed for the various missions to which they were assigned, they assembled in the celebrated sanctuary of Our Lady of Fournières and promised that as soon as circumstances would permit they would form a community, the members of which would devote themselves to preaching and teaching, and that community would be the nucleus of the Society of Mary. In the midst of their many missionary duties many of the young priests forgot the promise they had made, but Father Colin and his brother, who were doing great work in a small parish, continued to work at a redaction of the rules of the proposed Society. In the year 1822 he submitted his rules, with a full account of his work, to the Pope, Pius VII. The Sovereign Pontiff replied to him on March 9 of the same year by a Brief in which he highly praised the work that had been undertaken. Some time after this Father Colin was given charge of a college by the Bishop of Belley. In the meantime, and as often as the work of education allowed him, he went with one or two of his companions to catechise the children and preach the Word of God to the people in country villages where services had not been held since the time of the Revolution. When we read an account of these missions, of the wonderful work performed, the sufferings and hardships endured by the missionaries, we are reminded of the times and works of the Apostles. For years the services of these holy men under the direction of Father Colin were in demand everywhere. Then the Cardinal Prefect of the Propaganda wrote to the Archbishop of Lyons asking if he knew of some priests in France who would undertake the perilous task of evangelizing the natives of the South Pacific, including New Zealand. The Archbishop informed Father Colin of the request of the Cardinal Prefect of the Propaganda. He embraced with eagerness the opportunity of consolidating his work, of extending his sphere of labor, and of making known the name of Christ in heathen lands. Before engaging in such a responsible undertaking, fraught with so many difficulties and dangers and much suffering, he made one request—the approbation of the Holy See which constituted them a religious Society. This application was granted on April 29, 1836. When the Papal Brief reached Belley, where the Marist Fathers had established their first residence, it was received by the members of the community with the greatest joy. The day of the first religious profession and of the election of the first Superior-General was fixed for September 24, 1836. It was Father Colin's desire that the position of Superior-General would be conferred on a distinguished priest who had given up the title of Vicar-General of the archdiocese of Lyons in order to join his former pupil and become a

member of the infant society. Imagine Father Colin's dismay on finding that all the votes, save his own, had been given for himself as Superior-General. So grieved was he at the choice made that he declared he would never have had the courage to found the society had he foreseen the result of the election. Yet, he at once submitted to the will of Providence as clearly manifested by the votes of the members of the Society.

On that date, September 24, 1836, the Society of Mary numbered only 20 members, but they were all endowed with those gifts and qualities such as God bestows on those whom He destines to perform great works. Among the founders of the Society were Father Champagnat, the founder of the Marist Brothers, well known as great educators of youth in every part of the world; Blessed Peter Chanel, the first martyr of the Society and of Australasia; Father Bataillon, the great apostle of Wallis; and Father Servant, who was selected to accompany Bishop Pompallier to New Zealand, and was the pioneer Catholic missionary in this Dominion. In obedience to the call of the Sovereign Pontiff seven missionaries were selected to proceed to the islands of the South Pacific, and there preach the Gospel in countries on which a priest had never set foot. In addition to those whose names are given above the party included Father Bret and three lay Brothers. Prior to their departure for the far distant and little known scene of their spiritual labors they all assembled in the sanctuary of Fournières, where Bishop Pompallier celebrated Mass, after which they set out for the vessel which was to take them to the unknown islands of the South Pacific. Bishop Pompallier, Father Servant, and one of the lay Brothers (Brother Colombon) arrived at Hokianga on Wednesday, January 10, 1838.

The constitutions of the Society were definitely approved by the Holy See in 1873, and on November 11, 1875, Father Colin received the last Sacraments from his nephew, Father Eugene Colin, in the presence of the whole community, and on the fifteenth of the same month the founder of the Society of Mary departed this life.

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON

(From our own correspondent.)

December 19.

A Catholic bazaar was opened at Masterton on Monday, December 14, and was well patronised.

The art union in aid of St. Anne's Catholic Club, Newtown, was drawn on Thursday night. Eight prizes were donated.

There will be Mass on Christmas Day for the first time at Brooklyn, in Pulford's Hall, and also at Wadestown, at the residence of Mr. Blake, at 8 o'clock.

It is with sincere regret that I have to record the death of Mrs. A. G. Glastonbury, Newtown. The deceased lady passed away on the 14th inst. The late Mrs. Glastonbury had by her kindness and sympathy towards others in their troubles endeared herself to many acquaintances. The Rev. Father Herring officiated at St. Anne's Church, Newtown, and at Karori Cemetery. Much sympathy is expressed for the relatives in their bereavement. R.I.P.

A pleasant social evening was held at the Drill Hall, Petone, on December 17, under the auspices of the Petone Catholic Club, in aid of the furnishing of the new convent shortly to be erected in Petone for the Sisters of the Notre Dame des Missions. The following contributed items: Mrs. Rowell, Misses Gladding and Rowell, Mr. J. Carson, and Masters Gladding and Rowell. An excellent supper was provided. Much credit is due to Messrs. F. Jackson, J. May, and M. Ryan, who helped to make the function such an enjoyable success.

The Executive of the Federated Catholic Clubs of New Zealand has decided to award diplomas of honor to Mr. J. G. Venning, of Timaru, and Mr. G. J. Fama (an old Wellington boy), of Waverley, for distinguished services rendered towards the work of the Federation. The former has proved himself a staunch supporter of the Federation movement, and his early efforts in Timaru have not been forgotten. Mr. Fama has been instrumental in organising clubs in various centres of New Zealand.

The Very Rev. Father Power, of Hawera, arrived in Wellington by the Moeraki on Wednesday, from a visit to Europe. In company with his sister, Miss Power, he went through Germany, Switzerland, Italy, and France, and also made a trip down the Nile. He was received in private audience by his Holiness the Pope in April, and was again received by the Holy Father in November. Father Power says that he noticed a great improvement in the state of affairs in Ireland. The people, he remarked, are rapidly becoming the owners of the land, and consequently the future is a hopeful one, for even now a majority of the occupiers of land own their holdings.

GEO. T. WHITE
NOVELTIES AT LOWEST PRICES.

Importer, Watchmaker, Manufacturing Jeweller, Medallist, &c.
COLOMBO STREET, CHRISTCHURCH.
LAMBTON QUAY, WELLINGTON. Established 1875.

At the first important amateur sports gathering of the season, which was held on Saturday, 12th inst., at Athletic Park, under the auspices of the Wellington Amateur Athletic Club, the following members of the Wellington Catholic Club acquitted themselves creditably:—M. Mulcahy was first in the Mile Handicap, P. J. Fitzgerald first in the One-mile and Three-mile Walk Handicaps, D. Casey, first in the 440yds Handicap; P. McGrath, second in the 220yds Hurdle Race and third in the Half-mile Handicap. The 100yds St. Patrick's College Handicap was won by M. Maher, J. Ryan 2, and Coakley 3. Mulcahy's time in the three-mile race was only four-fifths of a second outside the club's standard time, and there is every prospect of his representing the Wellington Amateur Union at the next Championship meeting.

There passed away on December 16, at the Victoria Hospital, Mr. Maurice Ready, at the age of seventy-two years. The deceased was a native of Ireland, and before coming to New Zealand he was a member of the Royal Irish Constabulary, but he left that force to join the Papal forces against Garibaldi in Italy. During the campaign he received a decoration for conspicuous bravery. He came to New Zealand in the sixties, and joined the police force. He retired from the police force in 1893, and took up his residence on the West Coast, where he had lived up to a short time before his death. The deceased was a much esteemed and popular officer in the force. He leaves a son (Mr. Henry Ready, in the R.N.Z.A.) and three married daughters (Mesdames Dovey, of Palmerston, and

Grey and Fordyce, of Wellington). The funeral took place on December 18 at the Mount Street Catholic Cemetery, and was attended by a large number of friends. The Rev. Father S. Mahony, S.M., officiated at St. Joseph's Church, and the Rev. Father Schaefer, S.M., at the graveside. R.I.P.

The membership of the newly-organised Confraternity of the Sacred Heart in the Sacred Heart Basilica has become so large that the Rev. Administrator has had to establish special confraternity Masses for both the men's branch and the women's branch. On Sunday, December 6, the members of the latter branch approached the Holy Table guild by guild, the guilds, or circles, occupying the whole of the nave of the church. Last Sunday the men had their first confraternity Mass, and it was most edifying to see all present without exception receiving Holy Communion. At 10.30 Mass in the same church last Sunday the St. Patrick's College Cadets held a church parade. In their march through the city the lads, by their carriage and military bearing, excited favorable comment. The outsiders present at the Mass had the pleasure of witnessing the unusual sight of a military salute given to the Most Blessed Sacrament at the Elevation. A guard of honor of eight, under Captain Mark Devoy, stationed within the sanctuary, carried out this portion of the function. The Very Rev. Father Keogh, S.M., Rector of St. Patrick's College, was the special preacher on this occasion.

N.Z. Farmers' Co operative Association of Canterbury, Ltd

Stock, Land, Wool and Produce Merchants

SPECIAL REBATE TO SHAREHOLDERS of commission charged for selling Live Stock.

The CO-OP is the **LARGEST INSTITUTION** in the Dominion established by the farmers. The steady increase of support extended to the Association during the past years is absolute proof that the farmers realise the importance of having an Institution of their own.

Being the **LARGEST RETAIL** concern in the Dominion, Farmers and others can purchase to advantage their Farm and Household Requisites at the CO-OP.

Head Office - - - **Cashel Street, Christchurch**

BRANCHES: Ashburton, Rangiora, Hawarden and Oxford

E. W. RELPH, General Manager

EMPIRE HOTEL

HIGH STREET, CHRISTCHURCH.

J. BRYAN.....Proprietor.

Accommodation Unsurpassed.

Speciality—Good 1/- LUNCH.

'PHONE 292. P.O. BOX 328.

F Meenan & Co.,

WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS,

Wholesale and Retail

PRODUCE & PROVISION MERCHANTS

Great King Street, Dunedin.

(Opposite Hospital)

Suppliers of Oats, Butter and Potatoes.

GROSVENOR HOTEL

Cr. Moorhouse Avenue and Madras Street, CHRISTCHURCH.

(Immediately opposite Railway Station).

Electric cars passing frequently. Internal

arrangements thoroughly renovated. Best

brands of wines and spirits. Charges

Moderate.

J. JACKSON.....Proprietor.

—OVER FOUR MILLION SOLD ANNUALLY IN AUSTRALASIA—

Marseilles Red Roofing Tiles

SALES IN NEW ZEALAND ARE INCREASING EVERY MONTH

Light, Cool, Watertight, Everlasting, Inexpensive.

Uniform Colour throughout. Every Roof Guarantee

Past Works.—Such as Dunedin Convent Camaru Convent, Clyde Church, Holy Trinity Church Port Chalmers, Dunedin Car House, Gore Post Office, Creosote Works, Invercargill, numerous Private Residences, particularly in High Street, Dunedin and in Roslyn, SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES

Future Works.—Such as Christchurch Cathedral, Dunedin, Bluff and Rangiora Railway Stations, Railway Library, Invercargill and TEN (10) Private Houses in Dunedin, Oamaru and Invercargill show the increasing popularity of the line.

Estimates Given of any work. These are carried out by our **RESIDENT EXPERTS**, and **WHICH WE GUARANTEE.**

The most **PICTURESQUE ROOF** for either Private or Public Buildings.

WUNDERLICH'S PATENT ZINC CEILINGS, Cheapest, Safest, and most Artistic.

SOLE
AGENTS

BRISCOE & Co., Ltd,

Dunedin, Wellington, Christchurch.

Auckland, and Invercargill.



Ecclesiastical Stained Glass Memorial Windows

AND LEADLIGHTS

Highest Award N.Z. International Exhibition, 1906-7.

OUR work shown at the exhibition so far surpassed all other that we were granted the only Special Award and Gold Medal, this being the highest possible honours

* * * *

Designs and Quotations sent to any part of the Dominion on receipt of particulars with sizes
Our Improved Patent Steel Reinforced Lead used in all our windows, giving greatest strength and durability

* * * *

BRADLEY BROS.,

DESIGNERS and CRAFTSMEN
IN STAINED GLASS

252 COLOMBO STREET, CHRISTCHURCH

We are now making a Grand Display of Amusing, Ornamental and Useful Articles suitable for Xmas and New Year Gifts for all ages

Every Novelty of the Season on View

WE INVITE
YOUR

*

Herbert, Haynes & Co. Ltd

See Our
Window for Toys

inspection of the varied & extensive choice of specially imported goods for this festive season now on exhibition in the various Departments of our Warehouses Princes St & Octagon - Dunedin

THE FLOOR HATH

IT'S PEARLS

LINOARNISH

PERMANENT
FLOOR POLISH

ALL
GROCCERS 1/6

WON'T WASH OFF



Tattersall's Hotel

(Under New Management)

Next Tattersall's Bazaar, Cashel Street,
— CHRISTCHURCH —

Everything Up-to-date- Electric Light throughout. The Cuisine Unsurpassed in the City. Every Comfort of a home.

Proprietor ... W. J. A. CLAY
(Late of Canterbury Hotel Methven)

Commercial Hotel, Waikaia

P. DELARGEY - Proprietor.
This Hotel has been renovated and brought up to the requirements of the most exacting traveller. It affords a Comfortable Home for Mining Men and others. There being Good Fishing in the district, Anglers will do well to make it their headquarters.

TERMS MODERATE.

Commodious Stables, from which John's Riversdale-Waikaia Coach departs daily. Time-table:—Waikaia depart. 11 10 a.m.; Riversdale arrive 1 10 p.m. Riversdale depart. 2 p.m.; Waikaia arrive, 4 p.m.

Hotel Cecil

WELLINGTON

* *
F. McPARLAND, Proprietor.
Tariff on application.

GEERIN, HALLY AND CO

AUCTIONEERS AND PROPERTY SALESMEN.

Offices and Salerooms, 161 Princes Street, Dunedin.

DENTAL (Wellington) Up-to-date Equipment; cheap
BAKERY (Dunedin), Sale or Lease; live concern
HOTEL AND STORE (Otago); turn-over £2,200 a year
HOTEL (West Coast), freehold; bargain
FARM (Southland), 320 acres; £4 10/- per acre
ORCHARD (Otago Central), sure competency to live man
Full particulars given upon application.

Don't Go Travelling

Until you have equipped yourself with a "Mosgiel" Rug! It means Comfort instead of Discomfort, and whether you are journeying by rail or steamer, driving or motoring, a "Mosgiel" Rug is ever the Tourist's best friend! New Zealand produces nothing finer than the Grand Prize "Mosgiel" Rugs. Be sure "Mosgiel" is on the corner of the Rug.

OBITUARY

MR. ARTHUR HAUGHEY, HAWERA.

The death occurred at Hawera on October 24 of Mr. Arthur Haughey, at the age of sixty-one years. The deceased, who was a native of the North of Ireland, had been engaged in business in Hawera for about twenty-seven years, and was for some time a member of the Borough Council. The late Mr. Haughey was a practical Catholic, and died fortified by all the rites of the Church. R.I.P.

SISTER M. PHILOMENA, AUCKLAND.

I regret to report the death of Sister Mary Philomena (writes a correspondent), who passed away at the Mater Misericordiae Hospital, Mount Eden, on October 13. Sister M. Philomena was born in Parramatta, New South Wales, and was the daughter of the late Mr. J. O'Flaherty. She was professed nine years, and during her short religious life proved herself to be a true Sister of Mercy. She bore her lingering illness with true Christian fortitude and died peacefully and calmly fortified by all the rites of the Church.—R.I.P.

MR. MICHAEL McCORMACK, RIMU.

There passed away on December 3, at his home in Governor's Terrace, Rimu (writes a correspondent), one of Westland's most respected residents in the person of Mr. Michael McCormack. Deceased was a native of County Clare, and came to New Zealand about fifty years ago. For the greater part of his life he had resided on the West Coast, where, in the days of the gold rushes, he was engaged in business as a storekeeper. He had been a valued officer of the County Council for many years, and the Councillors showed their respect for deceased by their presence at his funeral. He was one of the oldest subscribers in the district to the *Tablet*, and always maintained that it was a blessing in every Catholic home. On Wednesday morning Requiem Mass was celebrated in St. Mary's Church, Rimu, by the Rev. Father O'Connor, who afterwards officiated at the graveside, assisted by the Rev. Father Creed (Kumara) and the Rev. Father Cahill (Dannevirke). The funeral was one of the largest ever seen in the district, which shows the great respect in which he was held. On Sunday morning Father O'Connor spoke very feelingly of the deceased. His life, though simple, was most exemplary, his example during life doing much for the cause of religion. His death was peaceful and happy; his preparation for it was not of a week's or a year's duration but a lifelong preparation for that great moment when he breathed forth his soul to God, surrounded by his sorrowing family. He was a devoted Catholic, a true Irishman, a good citizen, a loving husband, and a kind father, and a good neighbor. He leaves a widow and a family of three sons and two daughters to mourn their loss.—R.I.P.

Westport

December 5.

In the practical music examinations under the auspices of the R.A.M., recently conducted by Mr. Dunhill, the candidates presented by the Sisters of Mercy were again most successful, all of whom passed. The following is the list:—Local Centre: Advanced Grade—Mary Hennessy, 108. Intermediate Grade—Tui Crowther (violin), 130 (honors); Ada Carlyon (piano), 124; Harriet Mills, 114. Higher Division, School Centre—E. Smith (singing), 120 (distinction); A. Corby (piano), 118; B. Elliot, 116; K. Duncan, 115; M. Watts, 112; K. Carroll (singing), 108. Lower Division—M. Clark (violin), 116; E. Lawson (piano), 115; E. Ryan, 113. Elementary Division—Hayo (piano), 130 (distinction); B. Doyle, 126; K. Pain, 118; A. Milligan (singing), 109; F. McKay (piano), 107. Primary Division—R. Seaton, 132 (distinction); M. Skinner, 126; O. Schadick, 108; I. Broome, 125; R. Broome, 119; A. Cullen, 127.

Dannevirke

(From an occasional correspondent.)

December 12.

A very successful social was held here recently in connection with the bazaar which is to take place in March. Messrs. J. Pettit and J. McDonald were the hon. secretaries.

The Rev. Father Cahill returned on last Saturday from a very enjoyable holiday in Canterbury and the West Coast of the South Island. During his absence his place was taken by Father P. W. Tynons, of the Meanees Seminary.

Mr. and Mrs. McGaughran, who have been amongst the earliest settlers around Dannevirke, have sold their farm and are soon leaving with their family for Auckland. The McGaughran family will be much missed by their co-religionists.

Two very beautiful statues have recently been presented to the local church by two ladies of the congregation. Mrs. O'Daly presented the statue of the Sacred Heart, in memory of her late husband, and Mrs. Lough with her daughters presented the statue of the Blessed Virgin and Child, in memory of her late daughter, Mrs. A. Potts. Messrs. J. Kelly, George Stratford, and J. Pettit erected and donated the side altars for the statues.

Very great interest is being taken in the Government dairy farms which are to be publicly balloted for on the 29th of this month. The block contains 5000 acres and it is subdivided into 43 dairy farms. The land is situated only two miles from Dannevirke, beside the railway line and a good road. Co-operative dairying is taking a strong hold all round Dannevirke. The private dairy companies are selling all their factories and creameries to their suppliers. The Piri Piri block is to be balloted for on the 29th inst on the optional system. The rent and upset price are considered reasonable.

Patea

(From our travelling correspondent.)

At the last district schools examination the Sisters of St. Joseph were singularly successful with the pupils sent forward by them. Of the six presented in the Sixth Standard four gained proficiency and two competency certificates. In the musical examinations they were no less successful, as the following list of passes will show:—Primary (practical)—Madge Bremer, 115. Elementary (practical)—Maud Mitchell, 130 (distinction); Flossie Hunger, 126; Clare Hogan, 125; Bessie Johnston, 121; Lizzie McComisky, 118. In the preparatory division, Trinity College examination, two were presented, Thomas Keane and Maude Fitzwater, and both passed. In the R.A.M. theoretical examination, passes were obtained by Kathleen McKenna, Beatrice Dickson, Lizzie McComisky, Clara Hogan, and Flossie Hunger.

The annual concert given by the pupils of the Sisters of St. Joseph took place in the Patea Hall on Wednesday, December 16, and despite the unseasonable weather large numbers were present at what proved to be a very interesting and successful entertainment. The choruses, action songs, instrumental items, etc., all came in for their measure of applause, which must have been as gratifying to the good Sisters as it surely was to the performers. The following was the programme:—Piano duet, Misses K. McKenna, E. Williams, F. Hunger, M. Fitzwater; chorus, senior pupils; action songs, infants; flag drill, senior girls; piano solo, Miss Maud Mitchell; song, juniors, piano duet, Misses C. Hogan, L. McComisky, F. Hunger, B. Dickson; song, senior pupils; Spanish drills, senior girls; piano duet, Misses E. Beamish, M. Bremer, Masters T. and F. Keane; chorus, senior pupils; song, boys; piano duet, Misses Dickson, Palmer, Carey, and E. Dickson; club-swinging, boys. In *'Liliola'*, a drama in four acts, the characters were sustained by Misses S. Power, K. McKenna, E. Kennedy, F. Power, M. Mitchell, B. Dickson, M. Gilligan, M. Mangos, M. McKenna, E. Williams, F. Hunger.

A meeting of delegates held on Monday afternoon, December 7, appointed the Right Rev. Mgr. O'Reilly as member of the Thames Hospital Trustees (says the local *Advertiser*). At the evening meeting Monsignor O'Reilly thanked the Board for the confidence placed in him.

We have received several school reports, which will appear in our next issue in the order in which they came to hand.

The UNITED INSURANCE CO., LTD

INCORPORATED

1862

Fire and Marine

HEAD OFFICE

SYDNEY

Manager: THOMAS M. TINLEY

Secretary: BARTIN HAIGH

BRANCHES:

London...Edward Bates, Res. Sec. Melbourne—T. Lockwood, Res. Sec. Adelaide—T. C. Reynolds, Res. Sec. Hobart—W. A. Tregear Res. Sec. Perth—J. H. Prouse, Res. Sec. Brisbane—E. Wickham Res. Sec. Townsville—C. W. Gilbert, Dis. Sec. Rockhampton—T. H. Shaw, Dis. Sec.

New Zealand Branch. Principal Office, Wellington.

Directors—Nicholas Reid, Chairman. Martin Kennedy, R. O'Connor

Resident Secretary—James S. Jameson

Bankers—NATIONAL BANK OF NEW ZEALAND, LTD.

Branches and Agencies:

Auckland—L. W. D. Andrews, Lis. Sec. Gisborne Dalgety and Co. Ltd. Taranaki—D. McAlum, Hawke's Bay—J. V. Brown and Sons (Fire); W. Kinross White (Marine) Nelson—M. Lightband Marlborough—B. Purkiss; Westland—T. Eldon Coates. Canterbury—W. B. McKenzie, Dis. Sec. Otago—J. R. Cameron, Dis. Sec. Southland—T. D. A. Moffett, Agent. Oamaru—E. Piper, Agent.

UNION STEAM SHIP COMPANY OF NEW ZEALAND, LTD.

Steamers are despatched as under (weather and other circumstances permitting):

LYTTELTON and WELLINGTON—
(Booking Passengers West Coast Ports)
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

NAPIER, GISBORNE and AUCKLAND—
Tuesdays and Fridays.

SYDNEY, via WELLINGTON and COOK STRAIT—
Every Wednesday.

SYDNEY, via EAST COAST PORTS and AUCKLAND—
Every Tuesday.

MELBOURNE via BLUFF and HOBART—
Every Sunday.

NELSON and NEW PLYMOUTH, via Oamaru, Timaru, Lyttelton, and Wellington—
Corinna Fortnightly.

WESTPORT and GREYMOUTH—via Oamaru, Timaru, Lyttelton and Wellington (cargo only)—calling at Picton fortnightly—
Every Thursday.

SUVA and LEVUKA
Regular monthly trips from Auckland TONGA, SAMOA, FIJI, and SYDNEY—
Regular Monthly Trips from Auckland. RARATONGA and TAHITI—
Regular monthly Trips from Auckland.

CANADIAN-AUSTRALIAN LINE
(Under the British Flag)
via Pacific Islands and Vancouver. Cheapest Quick Route to Canada, United States, and Europe—
Every Four Weeks from Sydney and Suva

To Drain Pipe Users

TRY OUR

CEMENT PIPES

Uniform in size. Cylindrical inside and out, perfectly straight, thoroughly matured.

Sizes, 4in. to 24in.

Three feet lengths, giving the advantage of fewer joints.

Prices and further information from the makers.

The Milburn Lime and Cement Co., Ltd.
37 CUMBERLAND STREET.

FORRESTER, DOW & CO.

Sole Agents for the
Standard "Rotary Shuttle,"
And

Jones' Sewing Machines.

Best House in City for

Prams and Co - Carts.

Repairs Guaranteed.

Note the Address:

53 PRINCES STREET, DUNEDIN

At Holiday time

"Highlander"

CONDENSED MILK

Is a Real Boon!

If the daily milk is sour?

"Highlander" is fresh and ready!

If it is "too hot to cook"?

"Highlander" will prove of immense value in the preparation of "Hot Weather Meals."

If a picnic is arranged?

A tin or two of "Highlander" Condensed Milk will solve the milk question!

If baby's milk is "turned" by the heat?

Don't run any risk—open a tin of "Highlander" and give the "little darling" this fresh, pure, and healthful milk, diluted to instructions.

Pure Milk is the only safe milk in summer—and to be quite safe, use the favourite "HIGHLANDER" CONDENSED MILK, which is guaranteed pure, positively free from all pathogenic germs, "Full Cream," and

"You can depend upon it."

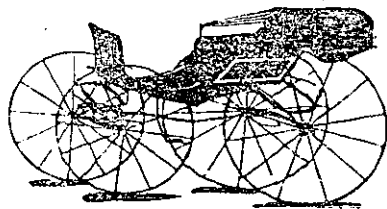
MARK SINCLAIR

COACHBUILDER AND IMPORTER,

GREAT KING and ST. ANDREW...

STREETS, DUNEDIN. ...

AND AT BURNSIDE, GREEN ISLAND.



Country Orders receive Special Attention.

Correspondence Invited.

Every Description of Carriage and Buggy Built to Order.

Also, Farm Drays, Waggons, and Spring Carts.

All Kinds of Repairs at Lowest Prices.

Largest Prize-taker in Carriages until Prizes were discontinued.

Barningham & Co., Ltd.

Manufacturers of the
FAMOUS IMPROVED

ZEALANDIA Cooking Range

With Open or Close Fire.

Also Verandah Castings and Tomb Railings

Greatest Variety in N.Z. to choose from.

Catalogues on application.

223 GEORGE ST., DUNEDIN

THOMAS COOK AND SON.

PASSENGER AGENTS FOR ALL LINES.

Before booking your passage to London or elsewhere write for 'COOK'S SAILING LIST' with Map, posted free, giving FARES and DATES of Sailing by all Lines.

No Commission Charged.

COOK'S SHIPPING OFFICE,
Exchange Buildings, Water Street.

A SMART SUMMER SUIT

£2 5s, £2 10s, £2 15s, & £3 3s.

MADE TO MEASURE

The Suits now being made to measure by George Davies, Christchurch, at the above prices for gentlemen right here in your own town, are really superb in style, fit, and finish. They equal in appearance suits you have been in the habit of prying your local tailors who give credit, 4 and 5 guineas for, and they possess one point which no other firm can supply—it is the famous "KEEP-SHAPE" front. This front is a registered front that insures the coat from turning back at getting out of shape. It is the latest idea from the best London and New York tailoring establishments, and Mr. Davies is fortunate indeed in possessing the exclusive right to use this front in coats made in New Zealand. Those who have already sent for samples and the simple self-measurement form, and forwarded their order since the "Keep-Shape" front was introduced, have been highly pleased with the splendid coats made. Then special care is given to every detail in the making of every garment, and Mr. Davies is so satisfied that your suit will give you complete satisfaction when you order it from him by post, that he has authorised us to state that he will give you a written guarantee to refund your money in full should you not be entirely satisfied with the garments when you receive them. We attribute the differences of £2 in the price of Mr. Davies' suits largely to the modern methods adopted in the making of the garments and of course also to the fact that he sells entirely for cash, giving no credit whatever, thus making no bad debts; and after all it does seem absurd that one man should have to pay a higher price for his suit just because some other fellow fails to pay for his, and that is just what happens, for somebody has to pay for those who do not pay, and naturally it is not the tailor who gives the credit, it is the man who does pay—you. Mr. Davies will esteem it a privilege to send samples to any of his readers who will just drop him a line saying "Kindly send me samples, simple self-measurement forms, etc. (a post card will do). You will receive by return mail a complete range of the latest things, together with illustration of the newest styles now being worn in the city, and when after investigating the value for yourself you decide to place your order by mail with this progressive firm, you will take no risk whatever in the matter, for as above stated Mr. Davies gives you a written guarantee which insures complete satisfaction for you—makes it possible for you to secure the best suits made at any price at a saving of £2 to yourself. Our advice to all our gentleman readers is to write to-day for samples. Your letter or post card should be addressed—GEORGE DAVIES, 196 Colombo Street, Christchurch.

Hawera

Yesterday (Wednesday) we received a telegraphic message from our Hawera correspondent to the effect that the Rev. Father Duffy, of Patea, who has been seriously ill, underwent an operation on Monday, and that he was progressing favorably.

LIFE IS WORTH LIVING

Who gets the most out of life? The men or women who are always ailing, sick, despondent, cheerless, or those who are always well—who see the beauties of Nature, and enjoy the bright sun, the blue sky, the singing of birds, and are always cheerful and happy?

A sick, lazy, tired liver will make any man or woman despondent and cheerless. It will take the brightness and happiness out of any person's life. The whole world seems to be against one whose liver has gone on strike.

Take care of your liver is good advice. This important organ telephones for advice and help when there is need for assistance. A small dose—about 30 drops—of DR. ENSOR'S TAMER JUICE taken with a little water two or three times a day will soon alter that bad, "dark brown" taste, will relieve the sick headache, the flatulence, the constipation, and the other symptoms that always accompany a badly-working liver. Let Dr. Ensor's Tamer Juice put your liver right, and you will find a vigor and life which adds zest to both work and play. You will feel like a new person with a clear eye, sweet breath, and a keen brain. You can carry a smiling face in spite of worry and care if you keep your liver right by the occasional use of Dr. Ensor's Tamer Juice. Sold by all medicine dealers in bottles, 2s 6d each. The Tussicura Manufacturing Co., Dunedin, sole proprietors and manufacturers.

Caledonian Society of Otago

ANNUAL GATHERING
(CHAMPIONSHIP MEETING OF NEW ZEALAND
ATHLETIC UNION),
JANUARY 1 and 2, 1909.

SOCIETY'S GROUNDS, KENSINGTON.

£400 GIVEN IN PRIZES.

	£	s.	d.
Running and Walking	140	0	0
Bagpipe Music	27	10	0
Dancing	41	10	0
Wrestling	50	0	0
Cycling	40	0	0
Hammer, Caber, and Ball	17	15	0
Wood-chopping Competition (2nd day)	20	0	0
Quoiting	7	15	0

The Athletic Union of New Zealand will give certificates to winners of events in Running, Walking, Dancing, Hammer, Ball, Caber, and Wrestling; and the Otago Centre N.Z.A.U. will give a Gold Medal, value £3 3s, to the winner of most points in cash class of events. Medal, value £3 3s, will be given to the best All-round Athlete competing at the gathering.

FOR DETAILS SEE PROGRAMME.

ENTRIES for Running and Walking CLOSE at the Secretary's Office, 27 Rattray Street, at 8 p.m. on SATURDAY, 19th December; Cycling, on SATURDAY, 19th December, at 5 p.m. For all other Events on THURSDAY, 24th December, at 8 p.m.

Entry Money for Dunedin and Caledonian Handicaps, 3s 6d. All Events with prize-money exceeding £5 for first prize, 3s 6d. Wrestling, 3s 6d. For all other Events, 2s 6d. Youths' Races, 1s.

Programmes can be obtained from the Directors, or at the Secretary's Office, 27 Rattray Street.

Side Shows of every description, and Luncheon, Fruit, and Refreshment Booths will be conducted on usual liberal lines.

WILLIAW REID,
Secretary, 27 Rattray Street.

WOOL

Otago and Southland Farmers should
Sell their Clips through.....

Wright, Stephenson & Co.,
Ltd

The Premier Wool-brokers in the Province.

AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC TRUTH SOCIETY.

FOR the Dissemination of Catholic Truth and the Defence of Holy Church, 64 penny Pamphlets on most interesting and instructive Subjects have already been issued.

An Australian Catholic Prayer Book has been compiled, and can now be procured: In boards, 3d; leather, 1s 3d; leather with Epistles and Gospels of Sundays and Feasts, 1s 6d; and beautifully bound Morocco, 3s 6d.

Subscription, 5s per annum, entitling to all the Penny Publications issued during the year.

Life Members, £3 3s.

REV. J. NORRIS,
Secretary,
312 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne.

FITS AND EPILEPSY

ARE CURABLE BY
TRENCH'S REMEDY

HEAD OFFICE: DUBLIN.

A FEW TYPICAL CASES OUT OF MANY CURES.
48 HOURS TO LIVE.

A girl had fits in such rapid succession that she was unable to take food or drink, and the doctor who was attending her said she could not live more than 48 hours. Trench's Remedy at once stopped the fits, and there has not been a further attack since—over 2½ years—and none of the Remedy has been taken for over a year.

DECLARED TO BE INCURABLE

A girl who had been at various times under treatment by several of the leading doctors of Melbourne was declared to be incurable by them all, and the parents were advised to place her in an asylum. She took from ten to twenty fits a day, yet upon using Trench's Remedy the attacks ceased at once, and she has not had a fit since—nearly three years. She ceased taking the Remedy nearly two years ago.

£1000 SPENT WITHOUT RESULT.

The son of a leading merchant of Melbourne broke down just as he was commencing his University course. All the best physicians of Melbourne were consulted, but none of them could stop the fits. The father then took the young man to England and elsewhere to obtain the best advice in the world, but, after spending over £1000, he brought him back with the fits occurring more frequently than ever. Trench's Remedy at once stopped the attacks, and the young man is now perfectly cured.

The above statements can be verified by personal reference to the parents of the patients, who, from gratitude, have offered to reply to any enquirers we refer to them.

Valuable Booklet Post Free from

ELLISON & DUNCAN,
PORT AHURIRI, NAPIER.

SMITH AND SMITH Ltd.

OIL and COLOR MERCHANTS

WALLPAPER WAREHOUSEMEN

Designers and Makers of Stained Glass Windows, Ecclesiastical and Domestic; also Leaded Lights.

For up-to-date suggestions in all Glass Decorations we are Unequalled in the Dominion.

Gainers of the Coveted Gold Medal against all European competitors at the recent International Exhibition at Christchurch.

Agents for "Metallic Roofing Company's" Metallic Steel Ceiling and Walls—a Beautiful Interior Finish that suits every class of building—Fireproof, Sanitary, Washable, and Wonderfully Durable. Plans, Catalogues, and full particulars furnished on application.

Importers of Artists' Materials, Brushes, Plaques, and all requisites suitable for Convent Schools.

Bevelled Mirrors (framed or unframed) a specialty.

Dunedin, Wellington, Christchurch.

SLIGO BROS.

MEMBERS DUNEDIN STOCK EXCHANGE.

STOCK EXCHANGE BUILDINGS, PRINCES STREET.

STOCK & SHAREBROKERS, MINING EXPERTS

Investment Stocks a Specialty.

TELEGRAMS.....'SLIGO, DUNEDIN.'

AUSTRALIAN GENERAL CATHOLIC DEPOT.

LOUIS GILLE AND CO,

73 AND 75 LIVERPOOL
STREET, SYDNEY.300 AND 302 LONSDALE
STREET, MELBOURNE.By Special
AppointmentSuppliers to
His Holiness Pius X.

A CATHOLIC ENCYCLOPEDIA.

CATHOLIC HOME ANNUAL FOR 1909.

New Features.—In connection with the Calendar for the year are given the Monthly Devotion; a Sketch of one of the principal Saints for each month; Indulgences to be gained each month; Books suitable for the month; the Correct Thing for Catholics; Sovereign Pontiff and Catholic Hierarchy; Catholic Practice; Recent Scientific Progress, etc., etc.

Astronomical Calendar: Calendar of Feasts and Fasts.

STORIES and ARTICLES.—Century of Catholic Progress, T. F. Meehan, M.A.; When the Tide Came In, M. A. Taggart; General Philip H. Sheridan, by M. F. Egan; A Tug of War, M. T. Waggaman; The Statue, story, M. E. Mannix; Mountain Monasteries, by M. F. Nicou-Roulet; Across the Years, A. T. Sadlier; Romance, Indian Maiden, T. J. Campbell, S.J.; An Easter Lily, Jerome Harte; The Test, by Grace Keon; A Double Mistake, Magdalen Rock; Notable events of past years.

Artistic frontispiece and numerous other illustrations.

Marvellous value—only 1/- each; per post, 1/3.

S. T. PATRICK'S COLLEGE
WELLINGTON.

CONDUCTED BY THE MARIST FATHERS.

Under the Distinguished Patronage of His Grace the Archbishop of Wellington.

The object of the Marist Fathers in this country, as in their colleges in Europe and America, is to impart to their pupils a thoroughly Religious and a sound Literary education, which will enable them in after-life to discharge their duties with honor to Religion and Society, and with credit and advantage to themselves.

Students are prepared for the N.Z. University Junior and Senior Civil Service, Medical Entrance, Solicitors' General Knowledge, Bank and all other Public Examinations.

Students not preparing for the learned Professions have the advantage of a Special Commercial Course, under efficient management, where they are taught all that will be of use in mercantile pursuits.

Special attention is also paid to the teaching of Physical Science, for which purpose the College possesses a large Laboratory and Demonstration Hall. Vocal Music, Elocution, Drawing, and all other branches of a Liberal Education receive due attention.

Physical Culture is attended to by a competent Drill Instructor, who trains the students three times a week in Drill, Rifle Practice and Gymnastics. A large and well-equipped Gymnasium is attached to the College.

The religious and moral training of the pupils is an object of special care, and particular care is bestowed on the teaching of Christian Doctrine.

A well-appointed Infirmary attached to the College is under the charge of the Sisters of Compassion, from whom in case of illness all students receive the most tender and devoted care, and who at all times pay particular attention to the younger and more delicate pupils, who without such care would find the absence of home comforts very trying.

For TERMS, etc., apply to

THE RECTOR.

THE CATHOLIC BOOK DEPOT

(OPPOSITE THE CATHEDRAL)

BARBADOES STREET, CHRISTCHURCH.

Received from America, ex the Star of England: A Fresh Supply of New Books, Novelties, and Religious Objects. Amongst the books are: 'Catholic Home Annual for 1909,' 'Meditations for Monthly Retreats' (Semple, S.J.), 'The Religious State' (Ligouri), 'Jesus Living in the Priest,' 'What Catholics Have Done for Science,' the works of Father Lasance, including 'The Prayer Book for Religious,' 'Catholic Girls' Guide,' 'Visits to the Blessed Sacrament,' etc.; 'Spiritual Pepper and Salt,' 'The Perfect Religious,' etc.

A Large and Select Stock of Missionary Goods, including Books and Religious Articles.

Tucker's Wax Candles, Incense, Charcoal, Wicks, Tapers, Sanctuary Lamps, Vases, Candlesticks, Charts, Altar Cruets.

The Best Stock of Catholic Literature and Objects of Catholic Devotion of any firm in the Dominion.

Inspection invited. Orders punctually attended to.

E. O'CONNOR, Proprietor.

Convent of Our Lady of Mercy

TE AROHA, AUCKLAND.

Under the Special Patronage of Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan, Bishop of Auckland.

First-class Boarding and High School conducted by the Sisters of Mercy. Unrivalled situation close to the famous Mineral Springs and Sanatorium. Especially built and equipped with every modern convenience, offering every advantage to delicate growing girls.

Thorough Modern and Practical Education under Government Inspection. Special classes for Music, Art, and Languages. Exceptional facilities for musical study, as the school is a Centre for the Trinity College, London, and Auckland University Examinations.

Religious training and formation of character are objects of special care. Most careful supervision. Accommodation for a limited number of boys under ten years of age. Terms strictly moderate.

Apply to the

SISTER SUPERIOR.

NEW ZEALAND CATHOLIC DEPOT
WHITAKER BROS.,

LAMBTON QUAY, WELLINGTON.

Branch: Greymouth

The Story of the Eucharistic Congress, illustrated, 1s 3d; posted, 1s 5d.

The New Theology, by Father Lieber, 6d; posted 8d.

Old Truths, Not Modernist Errors, by Father N. Jones, 6d; posted 8d.

Catechism on Modernism, translated by Father Fitzpatrick, 10d.

The Old Riddle and Newest Answer, by Father Gerard, 6d; posted 8d.

Ministry of Daily Communion, Father Zulueka, 1s 9d; posted 1s 11d.

Devotions of St. Bede, arranged by Abbot Gasquet, 1s 3d; posted 1s 5d.

Fraternal Charity, by Father Valing, 1s 3d; posted 1s 5d.

Gradual Abbreviations for Choir Use.

Maxims of Madame Swetchine, 2s 3d; posted, 2s 5d.

Regina Poetarum, Our Lady's Anthology, 4s; posted 4s 6d.

The Degrees of the Spiritual Life, Abbe Saudreau (2 vols.), 10s; posted 11s.

Meditations for Secular Priests (2 vols.), Pere Chaignon, posted 20s 6d.

Cords of Adam, Father Gerard, 6s; posted 6s 6d.

The Structure of Life, by Mrs. Burke, posted 2s 3d.

The Value of Life, by C. E. Burke, posted 2s 3d.

The Orthodox Eastern Church, by Father A. Forbucci, 6s; posted 6s 8d.

Virtues and Spiritual Counsel, Father Noailles, posted 6s 5d.

Frequent and Daily Communion, Father Devine, 2s; posted 2s 3d.

G. F. DODDS

SURGEON DENTIST

Princes Street, Dunedin

Above Union Bank

Opposite Brown, Ewing & Co

Telephone 866

MYERS & CO

.....DENTISTS

OCTAGON...

Corner of George St, Dunedin

J. LAMB AND SON,

UNDERTAKERS

AND EMBALMERS

35 Lichfield St. Christchurch

Telephone 539.



- The Empty Chair -

CHRISTMAS STORY

Gordon Raymond stepped out to where his carriage waited for him. He was a stately old man, richly clad, his general appearance that of one accustomed to ease and elegance. His footman stood with hand upon the open door of the vehicle, and he paused halfway down the steps to bow courteously to a young girl who looked at him with a smile and nodded as she passed.

Gordon Raymond's face did not relax, his eyes did not brighten, though the countenance upturned to his would have gladdened the heart of any man not a misanthrope. Its very fairness and freshness and unspoiled youth would have served as passports to immediate favor. Ordinarily, even Gordon Raymond could not resist it; ordinarily, it gave him a distinct sense of pleasure. But not to-day. There was a heavy cloud upon his spirits—due, indeed, partially, if not wholly, to the pretty girl herself.

For she was one of his happy next-door neighbors. In spite of the crustiness which the years had brought to a lonely old man, he had found himself unable to resist the brightness of the three young sisters who made their home next to his dwelling-place—feeling but too well the difference between those two words. Because of the very gaiety and light-heartedness of the trio he had, during the first few months of their proximity, ignored them; during those first few months he had withdrawn into his shell, doing his best to remain insensible and unmoved by their bright 'good-mornings' and cheerful 'good-days.' But he would have had to be more than human to resist. Try as he might he could not. Try as he would, he felt that he dared not; that he was shutting out the only bit of pleasure that had come to him in years. He bent, he thawed, he yielded, and so strong grew the craving for human sympathy that where he had avoided he now sought them. The older one with the gray eyes, and the next one with the yellow hair, and the youngest one with the pretty smile—this was the way he arranged them in his mental category.

It was the youngest one with the pretty smile who paused to flash that pretty smile up at him, her face shining like a white rose from her soft brown furs. She was merrier than the other two, and now as she passed and smiled she held up a great bunch of holly in her gloved hand, and put her dainty head on one side with a gay and roguish look, as if to challenge him to speech, and as if to say to him, 'And where is your holly?' And where are you going at this hour on Christmas Eve, instead of staying at home? Have you no merry Christmas to prepare for, to look forward to?



NO ROOM

No room for Him who poised the suns in space.
A village inn rejects both Him and thee.
Fare further, weary one, and thou wilt see
A hollow in yon rocks, a sheltered place—
Oh! haste thee, for the night draws on apace,
And ere the dawn the olden prophecy
Will be fulfilled; thou wilt a mother be,
And Virgin still. O Mary full of grace!
And He, thy Babe, upon the straw will lie;
And kindly beasts with fragrant breath the air
Will warm, nor grudge Him shelter from the cold.
But I, with heart all chill and bare, shall I
Contemn this haven He hath found, or dare
Cast stone to smite the Bethlehemites of old?

—Irish Monthly.

He knew full well that she had. That day he must have been deaf did he not overhear the bursts of laughter, the bright chatter, the gay voices wafted into his open library window from the window next door. And perhaps he left his own window open much longer than he would have deemed necessary at another time, for from smiling and listening sympathetically he had grown suddenly cold and chilled. They had spoken of him—only a few words, a few simple and sympathetic words:

'The poor, lonely, rich old man next door!'

And he knew himself then for what he was—'a poor, lonely, rich old man!'

He pushed his book away from him and sat back in his chair, the light fading from his countenance. He had never looked at it in quite that way. He had always been proud of his station, his birth, his independence, his adamant will, his firm disposition, even his good health. He was pleased to see that men considered him clever and consulted him and asked his advice, even though he were now somewhat advanced in years. These things he was indeed proud of with a very great pride, and because he had very great wealth he was never undeceived. For the first time in his singularly lucky, supremely contented and highly respectable existence he had heard his name spoken with sympathy and pitifully. It had been the older one with the soft gray eyes, the one he liked the best, and perhaps it was the thrill of feeling in her low and gentle

After that the old man saw little of the city streets as his carriage rolled through them. In spite of himself, he could not help but remember past Christmases—Christmases which had been very, very happy contrasted to that which he would know on the morrow. The memory saddened his old face and tightened his thin lips, yet he could not, even if he would, have put the memory away.

He stopped at his club. Before entering, acting on an impulse, he went into the big confectionery store close to it and ordered a box of candy, monstrous in size. With it he enclosed his card.

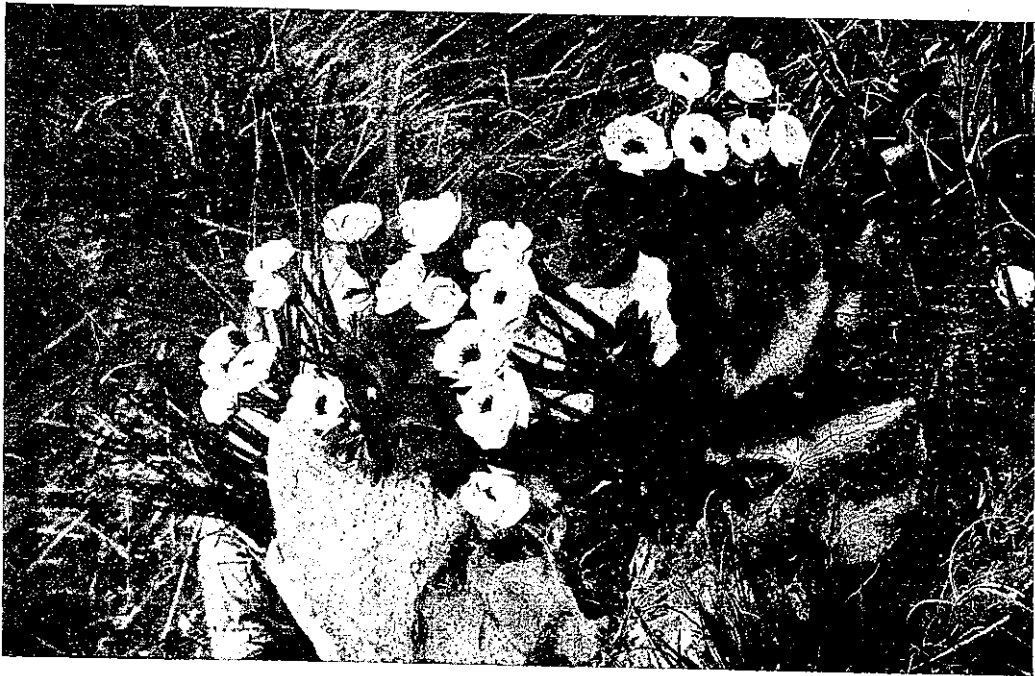
'To my three pretty neighbors, from the poor, lonely, rich old man next door,' he scribbled on the back of it, smiling as he did so, thinking what they would say when they received it. And his old lips were so unused to such smiling, and his face so accustomed to its severity, that a fellow-member, meeting him as he stood in the hall of the club house, looked at him in some astonishment.

'Hello,' he exclaimed. 'Have you heard good news?'

Raymond drew himself up.

'No,' he said, rather shortly. 'Why do you ask?'

'Oh, you've got a sort of Christmasy look!' He laughed as if it were a joke. 'A good-cheer-and-let's-be-happy look; a sort of long-lost-relative-just-found look!' And again he laughed, while Gordon Raymond turned away displeased, a frown on his forehead and an uncomplimentary word on his lips.



MOUNTAIN LILY (*Ranunculus Lyallii*).

voice that brought home the words with such stunning force:

'The poor, lonely, rich old man!'

'No Christmas tree!' Ah, that had been one of the sorrows of the season which they felt he must endure. 'No tormenting sisters!' Another sorrow, this? 'And, oh,' with a laugh and a rush that sounded as if there were thirty instead of three girls in the room, 'no sweet, beautiful, altogether lovely and charming mother, with a father in the background who was a veritable Santa Claus!' And then a deeper and fuller and older voice remonstrating, drowned amid a shower of kisses and shrieks of laughter. For was not this Christmas Eve, and were they—children at heart still—not privileged to be as foolish as they pleased?

No wonder he ordered his carriage—'the poor, lonely, rich old man—' and shut his window tight, and planned a drive off with his thoughts and his pride to keep him company and forget the noisy happiness he might never hope to take part in, though once— But he had no regrets; he surely had no regrets, he, the wealthy and highly respected Raymond, the millionaire?

And as he came down the steps the youngest one with the pretty smile passed below him and nodded and laughed and held up her bunch of holly.

He threw off his overcoat and sank into a leather chair near the open grate. The room was warm, bright, well lighted, but Gordon Raymond was chilled to the marrow. He ordered a hot drink; it did not warm him, nor the cigar that he puffed at slowly, nor the heat of the room, nor the nearness of the blazing logs. He was cold. He looked at his fine, thin, white hands, bluish in hue now, and shrunken. He moved his feet closer to the fire. They were numb. And as he sat and meditated, a curious thought struck him. The chill came from within; his heart and soul were cold and empty; and because this was the season of warmth of heart and soul, because this was the eve of that great day which the Lord had made, his life seemed most barren and valueless.

Again, as once before that self-same evening, Gordon Raymond let his head fall back. 'A poor, lonely, rich old man'—truly, now, that was his proper title. And the lines about his mouth deepened, and the shadows grew darker until his tired eyes and his forehead took on a frown that was not all due to the light of the room, but seemed rather to signify repressed pain. His thin hands—one lying upon his knee, the other holding his cigar—clasped and unclasped nervously. And while he sat thus a cheery voice called to the irreproachable waiter, and the

same cheery voice saluted him as its owner took a chair opposite.

'Hello, Mr. Raymond!' he exclaimed. 'Genuine Christmas weather, this. Snapping, hearty, gorgeous, isn't it? Christmas is in the air.'

Gordon Raymond, unclosing his eyes, nodded several times without lifting his head.

'Yes,' he answered, slowly. 'Genuine Christmas weather, and—er—Christmas is generally in the air about this time of the year, isn't it?'

But Bob Windthrop's high spirits could not be dashed because Gordon Raymond was not enthusiastic.

'Each Christmas seems happier to me than the one that preceded it,' he said. 'The boys make it lively—I've four youngsters, you know, and I'll guarantee we have a-much fun to the square inch—'

He paused suddenly. He was indeed a gay-hearted fellow, not too young, with a splendid home, a lovely wife and happy, healthy children. But he had not gone through life untouched by its pain, and he read the signs now in the white countenance opposite him.

'Of course, of course!' cried the young man hastily. 'I didn't know, Raymond. In fact, you've surprised me. I thought—every one believes—of course, that is another thing. Well, a merry Christmas, a merry Christmas! I must be going on. I just dropped in to see if I could catch Peters and take him back with me. Peters is god-father to my youngest, and I suppose I'm a fool over them, but Peters is worse than I am. A merry Christmas, Raymond, and to'—with a curious look—'a merry Christmas to your daughter too!'

He rose, turned, but his gaze lingered on the old man's face. There was an unwonted brightness in his eyes as he went down the room.

'The poor old chap!' he whispered under his breath. 'The poor, lonely old chap—with all his money.'

At the door he met Peters. Peters had already despatched almost a half vanload of toys to the Windthrop domicile, but Peters now bore under his arm several suspicious-looking bundles, and his pockets were full to overflowing. Peters was younger than his lifelong friend, Bob, but not yet as happy, as Bob told him, since he was



RURAL SCENE, MILL ROAD, WAIMATE.

'I say, I really forgot you didn't have any one,' he began in an altered tone. 'Lots of friends, oh—of course—but you know—well, you know what I mean.' He paused. The other, neither by word nor sign, filled up that pause. 'Do me a favor, will you, Raymond? We'll have none of the old folks this year. Neither of Marion's parents are alive, and mine are still in Europe on account of the father's health, so we must keep Christmas without them. Will you come home with me? There's nobody in that big house of yours to care, and—oh, hang it all, Raymond, it must be a bit lonesome for you! Come on, and let those lads of mine pester you a bit!'

He ended so cheerfully, so boyishly, that Gordon Raymond bent forward. A smile crept to his thin lips, and from his lips to his eyes.

'I'd be tempted to accept, Bob,' he said. 'I would, indeed, but that I take Christmas dinner to-morrow with my daughter.'

Bob Windthrop's eyes widened.

'Your—'

'My daughter, yes; my daughter Adele. Under the circumstances—'

still single. Now, as they went out together, Windthrop indicated that quiet figure in the chair by a nod.

'I just asked Raymond to the house. He declined; says he's going to dine with his daughter to-morrow. Who's his daughter?'

'Never heard he had one,' said Peters. 'Never knew he was married. Sure he said his daughter?'

'His daughter Adele—those were the words.'

'Oh, his mind must be wandering.'

'Poor old chap, poor old chap!' repeated Bob Windthrop. 'If I told Marion that it would spoil her Christmas.'

'Then for goodness' sake, don't tell her!' exclaimed Peters, very energetically. 'There's enough unhappiness in the world without making her unhappy. Why, Bob, every time I see Marion I only hope I can bring that look to Nell's face.'

'Well, you've every prospect,' said Bob, laughing. 'Both young, hearty, cheerful, and of like tastes.'

And so the 'poor, lonely, rich old man,' with his chilled heart and empty soul, drifted out of the conversation, and even the thoughts of these happy folk, to whom the delights

of Christmas came as their right—a right enjoyed to the full.

He sat silent long after Bob Windthrop left him. His cigar went out, fell from his fingers to the floor, lay there forgotten and unheeded. Presently, however, he rose slowly to his feet, stretched his tired old limbs, and then slipped into the overcoat Jackson held ready for him, thanking him and bestowing a Christmas gift that made the man's eyes shine. A few seconds later he was starting toward his lonely mansion. As he went up the steps he saw a messenger carrying a huge box into the house next door, and he pictured, mentally, the consternation that would prevail among his pretty neighbors in a few moments. The look of amusement that the thought evoked lingered still as he entered the library.

'Tell Stephen to come here,' were his first words, and the old butler, a little mystified, went at once to the room.

'Stephen,' began Gordon Raymond, 'It is rather late to give orders now, but what arrangements have you made for to-morrow?'

candlesticks, all the carefully-hoarded treasures of the old house spread in a manner to please the eye and the taste of the most fastidious. It was long since the dinner-board was thus decorated. Gordon Raymond looked about him with satisfaction—at the dark oaken walls on which candle-gleam and firelight played, bringing out new shadows and intensifying deeper ones. The scent of the lilies-of-the-valley, sweet and penetrating, filled the air. Stephen lingered, adding a touch here and there, his gaze seeking, off and on, the face of that other old man; not curiously, but with a strange look of pity.

'Is everything right now, sir?' he asked. 'Does it please you?'

Very, very much,' said Gordon Raymond. 'We shall do ourselves credit.'

'At what hour do you and—er—do you expect to have dinner, sir?'

'The usual time. You have so arranged it, Stephen?'

'Yes, sir.'



NORTH DUNEDIN, from the Queen's Drive.

'Nothing out of the ordinary, sir,' answered Stephen. 'You see, you have never—'

'I understand, I understand,' said Gordon Raymond, waving the explanation aside. 'But this time I want you to get up as elaborate a dinner as you know how, and you know how, Stephen. I want the dining-room decorated with holly and smilax, and as many—as many,' he hesitated a little, 'lilies-of-the-valley as you can buy at the stores. Send a messenger out now to order them.'

Stephen, who had been with Gordon Raymond almost all his lifetime, gazed at him in consternation.

'Lilies-of-the-valley? Yes, sir; yes, sir. And—and—an elaborate spread? Places for how many, Mr. Gordon?'

'One guest and myself. My daughter dines with me.'

The consternation on Stephen's face turned to absolute dismay, but he recovered himself quickly, bowed, and went out.

And it was very, very beautiful indeed. The old man moved slowly through the room, his eyes dwelling on the daintily-set table. The silver, the delicate china, the tall

'Then come here; come closer, nearer to the fire. I want to talk to you.'

The old man came close as he was bidden. Gordon Raymond stood at the hearth, his arm resting on the high mantel board.

'Stephen,' he began, very quietly, 'you have had a wife.'

'Yes, sir. The Lord give her peace.'

'Amen to that, Stephen. She was a good woman.' He paused an instant, and when he spoke again there was a different note in his voice. 'And you have had children.'

'Five, sir—still living, all.'

'I know. And grandchildren.'

'Grandchildren—beautiful, lovable, the delight of all who know them.'

'So.' Gordon Raymond looked into the fire with sombre gaze. 'All those things you have, and men, even men such as I, call you blessed. Well, Stephen, you have been with me—we have been together many years.'

'Many years, Mr. Raymond.'

'You know my history. I, too, had a wife—'

His voice broke.

'A wife, sir?' Oh, no, not a wife. Rather, sir, an angel. Oh, sir, an angel—'

'Lent to me, and taken back again.'

'That is it, sir. Taken back, but taken back too soon.' Stephen coughed and turned his grey head away, ashamed a little of the tears in his eyes.

'You know also all the rest. And, Stephen, knowing what you know, it pleases me to tell you that I dine with

What visions of that absent one came before him! The little girl in her white robe, with its black ribbons—that first, lonely, heart-breaking Christmas after his wife's death. The schoolgirl with her shining, youthful, beautiful face. The young woman, accomplished, graceful, winning, lovable.

And after that?

Nothing.

For it was then, just then, that she had defied him, not openly, but with a quiet self-will which enraged the man of self-will. She married—married beneath her in wealth and station.

To-night she sat before him, the gracious, graceful girl he loved, and who, he knew, had loved him dearly. The beautiful girl, with her gentle voice so like her mother's, and her gentle face and her gentle ways. The meal went on, and as it did so he bent forward, thinking that he heard her speak.

Stephen withdrew to the side of the room, standing with glance riveted on his master's countenance, his master's glance riveted on that empty chair.

Ah! Gradually the dream was fading. Gradually the sorrow of his own self-deception was being forced upon him. For no keenness of the imagination could bring that sweet presence before him, and even as he gazed he saw another face, a lovable face, set above a slim, white-robed body. And the woman whom now his vision contemplated held out to him her beseeching hands.

'Gordon,' she prayed, 'where is the little one I gave into your care? Husband and father, what have you done with my little girl?'

A groan burst from his lips, his head fell forward on his breast, his eyes closed. And while he sat thus, his white hair shining in the candle light, his white hands resting on the polished table, Stephen moved with noiseless steps toward the door. He opened it. A woman en-



NEAR THE FALLS, HAAST VALLEY, WESTLAND.

my daughter this Christmas night, when all the world sits down amidst its own, rejoicing, merry and glad. Place the empty chair at the head of my table, Stephen, that chair which has been so long unoccupied, and serve your Miss Adele as if she were really present. Come now, good and blest old man,' he put shaking, cold fingers on the other's shoulders, 'good Stephen, come. It is my fancy that to-night she sits opposite to me—the girl I sent away, the flowers that she loved best about her, their perfume surrounding her. It is my fancy that her beautiful eyes meet mine with their old joyousness. Dead or living, God gives me this grace to-night, this happy Christmas night, to see her once again as she was, as she is; my own, of my own flesh and my own blood, the child I loved with all my heart, and whom, Stephen, whom I still love—as dearly.'

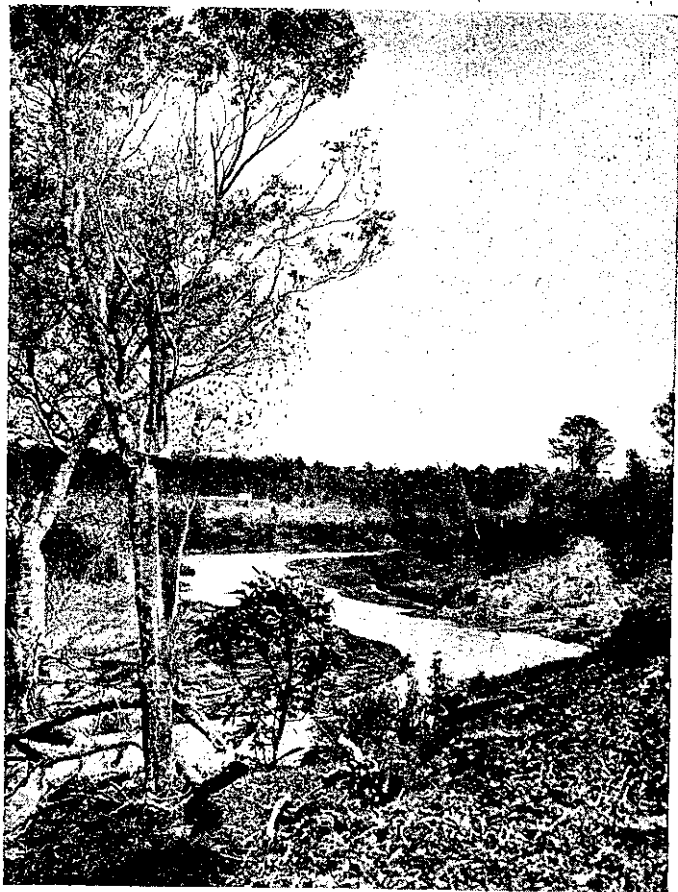
His hands dropped. Stephen made no pretence now of hiding the tears. He looked at him.

'Mr. Gordon, sir—'

Gordon Raymond raised his head.

'That is all, Stephen. When dinner is ready, you will find me in the library, as usual.'

Fifteen minutes later Stephen tapped lightly and announced the serving of the meal. Gordon Raymond bowed to some imaginary person, offered her his arm, escorted her to the door, which Stephen held wide open. In silence the meal began, and as Gordon Raymond ate he looked at the empty chair under the softly-shaded light. Stephen served at it first, and then brought the dishes to his master. In every movement the old butler, too, carried out the illusion. And presently Gordon Raymond's face lighted up, so keenly did his imagination take possession of him, and his eyes shone with a brighter gleam.



SCENE ON THE MANAWATU RIVER.

tered, stately as Gordon Raymond's self, beautiful; advanced to the table, and sat down in that empty chair without footstep or breath to herald her coming.

Gordon Raymond did not lift his eyes. As he sat silent, his mental gaze concentrated on the past, he heard a voice:

'Give that to father, please, Stephen.'

It was a very musical voice, so soft that it did not disturb or startle the old man. He looked up slowly—this was but part of his dream—gazed down the table—sat staring, mutely.

For the empty chair was filled.

Above that brow where once shone hair of gleaming gold was piled now a coronet of gleaming silver. Those

'If you are no vision of a disordered brain, no phantom conjured up by my imagination, speak, speak! Speak, if it be but one word!'

He saw her rise and push back her chair and move toward him. She put her arms about him and held him close; her warm, soft cheek was pressed to his cold one, her warm fingers met about his neck.



HUMDOLD MOUNTAIN & ROUTEBURN, from the Valley of the Dart.

blue eyes were still as blue and open, yes, and as loving as of yore. Those lips were curved to the sweet smile he knew. In all things this was like, so like, his lost Adele. And yet unlike, too. An older Adele—one who had known life's trials and vicissitudes, but still lovely, lovely with a beauty shining from within. She smiled at him again as he looked at her—smiled, but said no word.

'It is no vision, no phantom, dear father,' she whispered. 'It is Adele.'

He leaned against her, tremblingly. He gazed into her eyes; he put his arm about her, touched her hair, her cheek with his fingers in amazement and in rapture.

'Adele!' he said. 'God be praised; it is Adele!'

'Indeed, Adele,' she answered. 'Who has been wait-



BUSH SCENE IN RANKLEBURN VALLEY.

His hand went to his forehead in a dazed way. Stephen quietly put down the dish he held, went out and closed the door, and his existence was forgotten by Gordon Raymond. He rubbed his eyes, but still she sat there, smiling. He looked away from her and back again. The mystery of it smote him, then smote full upon him. He sprang to his feet, leaning his weight upon his hands while he bent towards her.

ing for this hour to win her way back into your heart. Whose husband and whose children are waiting, too. How I have prayed for this,' she went on. 'How I have prayed! And how God in His great love, and through our good Stephen's help, has straightened the way for me. My father, my dear father, my loved and loving father, tell me you are glad as I am.'

'Oh, child!' he murmured gently, tenderly. 'Child, my child!'

'For months, though I kept myself hidden from your sight, I have been your next-door neighbor,' she continued. 'The mother of the three girls with whom you have been making friends—yes, they are yours, too. Can you realise that?'

He could realise nothing yet—staring from her to the empty chair and back again. Content to realise nothing save that there was Adele, here beside him, her hand on his. That his daughter's loving eyes gazed into his, that her loving face beamed upon him.

He could realise nothing but that the heart in his bosom suddenly woke to life and warmth, and sent the blood with new vigor through his frame; that the chill and the cold had left him; that all was well with him, and that here, here sat Adele.

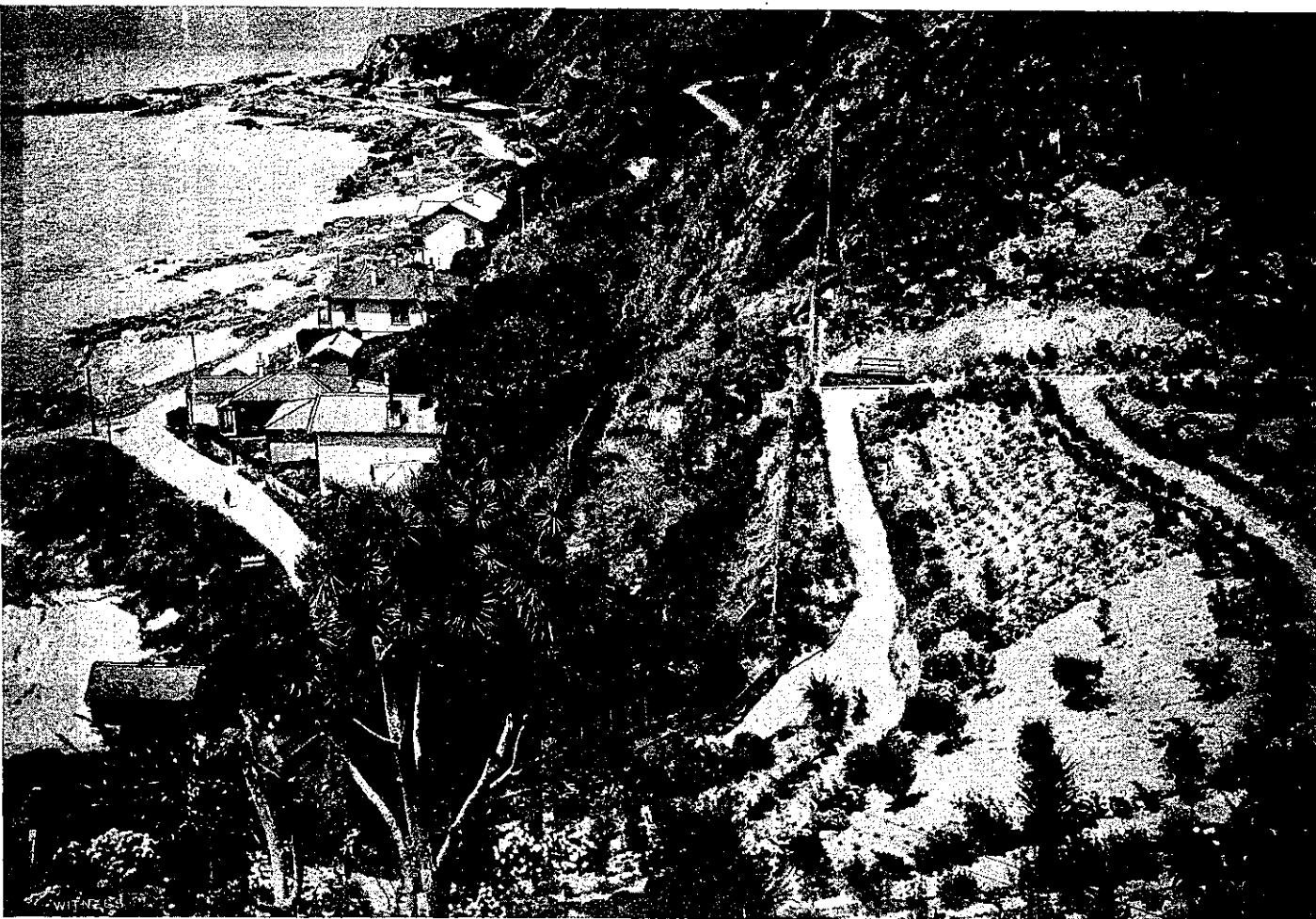
THE JUGGLER

Behind the great window of the luxurious club-house a man looked out at the stream of humanity that passed in two hurrying currents before him. He was comfortable in the big easy chair, and he felt a very slight twinge of pity for these bustling persons.

Why did these throngs seem in a hurry, and why did they all carry burdensome parcels. The bundles meant that Christmas Day was near. There were gifts in those parcels, foolish gifts, no doubt, for people who would throw them a glance and cast them aside. There was a man actually pushing his way through the crowd with a tree on his shoulder—a Christmas tree, of course. How very childish it all seemed.

A servant came into the room and turned on the lights. The man at the window looked around.

'Not many of the members here to-night, Robert?'



KARAKA BAY, one of the loveliest residential spots around Wellington.

And with that new life welling within him he responded to it. His three pretty neighbors came, and with them their father, a grey-haired man now, with the stamp of years well spent upon his countenance—a good husband, a true man, a useful, noble man, devoted to his wife and children. Gordon Raymond advanced to him, both hands outstretched—hands that asked forgiveness, and all was well between them from that hour. The meal began once more, Stephen, smiling and happy, hovering about the table. And Gordon Raymond yielded to the spirit of Christmas, and talked and laughed as he had not done in years, as he had never thought to do again in all the years that remained to him.

And surely, surely, not even the kind-hearted Bob Windthrop was happier among his loved ones than the 'poor, lonely, rich old man' who dined with his daughter that Christmas day—whose loneliness was, from that day on, forever a thing of the past.—*Extension.*

WANTED KNOWN—That Bill-heads, Circulars, Cards, Programmes, and General Printing of every description are executed at the *Tablet* Office. Moderate rates.

'No, sir. It's nearing Christmas, sir. Quite a number of the gentlemen go out of town.'

'True. I had forgotten.'

Another footfall caught his ear.

'Ah, Durham!'

The newcomer dropped into an easy chair.

'Began to think I had the club all to myself,' he said. 'Painfully dull, isn't it?'

'Yes. Evidently a general exodus. Why are you left behind?'

'I'm a man without a home just now. My people are in England, you know. For twenty-seven years my wife and I have eaten our Christmas dinner together, and I'm blue when I think of dining without her. You don't understand that, do you?'

'No,' the man at the window replied; 'I don't.'

'Didn't give me credit for so much sentiment, perhaps!'

'To tell you the truth,' said the man at the window, 'it surprises me.'

'I'm quite sure I'm not ashamed of it,' laughed Durham. 'Money grubbing hasn't entirely ossified me. But why are you lingering here, Minturn? No home?'

The man at the window laughed.

'I call this a pretty comfortable home,' he answered.

The other man shook his head.

'Sorry for you,' he said. 'If my people were home, I'd be only too glad to invite you up to dinner. We manage to have a pretty jolly time at Christmas. But, there, I want to get a letter off. See you this evening.'

The man at the window stared after him as he moved away. Then he turned and looked at the darkened street, and, as he looked, the scene seemed to slowly change. The tall buildings faded away, and in their places arose hilly slopes with clumps of trees and zigzag fences, and a village of white houses, with the steeple of a church, and with a playground along the bank of a brawling creek. And as he listened he could hear the laugh of the children at play, and a little later the bell in the distant steeple rang out in a most familiar way.

Suddenly he straightened up and rubbed his eyes. 'Asleep and dreaming,' he muttered, as he rose. 'Must go and order my dinner. Asleep and dreaming.'

That night George Minturn sat on the edge of his bed for some time. The little village nestling among the hills was before him again. This time his thoughts went back to a certain old-fashioned house, the house he had called home so long ago.

How familiar it looked! There was the very window above the porch—the window of his room—through which he had climbed when he ran away that June night so long ago.

He wondered now why he had never wanted to go back. His father had been hard and unsympathetic. He was a narrow man, with strong prejudices. But there was his mother. He drew his breath sharply.

There were few passengers on the single coach of the morning train that stopped at Ellsworth. One of these passengers was George Minturn. He looked about him curiously as he stepped from the car. A neat little station had taken the place of the ramshackle building he remembered so well. How changed everything seemed as he slowly strolled up the main street.

Presently he reached the venerable Green Tree Inn. A stout man greeted him.

'You're pretty well acquainted here, I fancy?' George inquired.

'Bout as well as anybody, I reckon,' the stout man replied. 'I grew up here.'

'Then you may know a family by the name of Minturn?'

'Tain't much of a family,' the stout man replied. 'Just Uncle Simeon and Aunt Emily. That's what the neighbors call 'em. They've got a son knockin' round somewhere, but he ain't likely to turn up.' He gave a little start.

'Mebby you come from him?'

'Maybe I do,' replied the stranger.

'Not dead, is he?'

'He wasn't when I saw him last.'

'Well, you tell him when you see him again that his folks ain't prosperin' as well as he'd like to have 'em, meebby.'

'Why, what's wrong?'

'Pinched for money—that's the main thing. The old man's gettin' pretty blind, too.'

'But why should they be pinched for money?'

'Old man had a younger brother who wasn't much good, an' he had a son that got into trouble, and the old man helped him out of it an' helped his family—and it took quite a chunk of money. There's somethin' owin' on the old home, too, an' I heard they was pressin' the old man for it.'

'Who knows about this indebtedness?'

'Jim Luck, up at the First National. He's the cashier and he knows 'bout pretty much everything.'

George Minturn was detained in the bank for nearly an hour. There was a telegram to send to his own bank in the city, and there were other details to arrange.

'By the way, Mr. Luck,' he said, as he turned to leave, 'can you tell me where I can get an old suit of clothes? I've an idea that I'd like to do a little masquerading.'

The cashier stared at him a moment. Then he smiled. 'Nothing quite so tattered as the prodigal's outfit?' he asked.

The stranger shook his head.

'Not as bad as that,' he answered. 'Something suggestive of a wanderer whose appearance might arouse a little sympathy.'

'I have an old hunting suit hanging up in my private room here,' said the cashier. 'Perhaps that will do.'

A half-hour later a shabby man of middle age tapped lightly on the door of a modest home. A gentle faced old lady looked at the stranger with a kindly smile.

'Madam,' said the shabby man as he quickly pulled off his soft hat. 'I'm a little down on my luck and a little blue, and to-morrow's Christmas, and I thought maybe you could let me stay here all night. I've got enough left to

pay you for it, but I don't want to go to a hotel—I want to be somewhere that's more like home.'

'Come in,' said the old lady.

An old man was sitting by the window with a book on his knees. He looked around as the newcomer entered.

'Father,' said the old lady, 'here's a stranger who says he's homesick and wants to know if we'll let him stay here to-night and Christmas.'

'It's just as you say, Emily,' responded the old man.

He took the seat she pointed out, and did his best to interest them. He told of the places he had visited, of his ocean voyage, of life in the mines and on the plains.

The old lady looked at him beamingly. 'It's like opening the door to the great outside world,' she said. 'We are quite dull here, and our Christmas would have been a lonely one. And it's really a double holiday with us. It's our golden wedding anniversary. We were married very young. He was twenty and I was seventeen.'

'Madam,' said the stranger, suddenly, 'would it cloud my welcome if I told you I was a showman—a juggler?'

She looked at him earnestly. Then she turned to the old man.

'He has an honest face,' she said. 'It will make no difference what his calling is, will it, father?'

'Not at Christmas time,' repeated the old man in a tremulous voice.

'Thank you,' said the stranger. 'And now you must let me stand my share of the Christmas feast. I told you that I had a little something left. I was wise enough to save a trifle, so that when the company broke up I wasn't stranded with the others.'

'We would rather consider you as our guest,' said the old lady with a gentle dignity. 'We are plain people, and our means are quite limited, but you are welcome to the best we have.'

'You will let me have my way,' said the stranger. 'Otherwise I should feel like an intruder. I think I know what will be wanted. Leave that to me. I must not forget that Christmas is not only Christmas, but your golden wedding day as well.'

The old lady's face brightened.

'Yes,' she said, 'Simeon brought me here fifty years ago. Here our son was born.'

The stranger arose.

'If I am to do any Christmas buying I'd better do it now,' he said in his cheeriest way. 'The afternoon is almost gone.'

When he returned he brought with him a heavily-laden basket, and in one pocket of his overcoat a chamois skin bag held something that tinkled musically.

'I knew you'd come back,' said the old lady. 'Father had his doubts.'

'Why, of course, I intended to come back,' said the stranger; 'I wouldn't miss this treat for—for a good deal.'

That night George Minturn slept in the room that was his when he was a boy. Next morning he awoke early and surprised himself anew by the zeal with which he entered into preparations for the feast. He split wood, he went for the milk, he chopped cabbage, he ground coffee. And just before the dinner was ready to serve he retreated to his room and changed his clothes and came down looking so trim and neat that the old lady's eyes opened very wide.

'And now,' he cried, 'I want to prove to you that my claim to being a juggler has some foundation. Will you both kindly leave the room for a moment and let me add the finishing touches to the table.'

Wonderingly, they left him alone, but it was only a few moments.

'Quite ready,' he cried. 'Come in.'

'Now,' he added, 'I pass my invisible wand above the table thus to ask the spirit of this blessed day to descend upon it.'

They bowed their heads as if this were a grace, and then the old man suddenly started.

'Why, what is this?' he cried in his tremulous voice. 'It was beneath my plate. Why, they are gold coins! Look, mother!'

'Why not?' cried the stranger. 'I told you I was a juggler. It's your golden wedding, remember.'

There were gold coins everywhere. Beneath the saucers, under the cream jug, they glistened and clinked and rolled.

And the fading eyes of the old man as he stooped above this shining treasure caught sight of a folded paper beneath the biggest platter. He drew it forth and held it close to his eyes.

'Why, mother,' he cried again, 'this is the discharge of our indebtedness—the old home is ours again.'

The eyes of the gentle old lady turned toward the smiling stranger, and her gaze was a troubled one.

'Once more,' he cried, but now his voice shook a little, 'I move the invisible wand above my head, and, behold! the juggler disappears, and this is your son George come home again!'

Convent of the Sacred Heart

ISLAND BAY, WELLINGTON.

The Annual Spiritual Retreat for Ladies

Will Begin at 7 p.m. on SATURDAY, the 9th day of January, 1909, and will End on the Morning of THURSDAY, the 14th day of January.

The Retreat will be preached by the Rev. Father Forster, S.J.

By applying in time to the Reverend Mother Superior, Ladies wishing to make the Retreat can remain at the Convent, where they will find every accommodation.

IN MEMORIAM

BOLAND.—Of your charity pray for the soul of Mary (May), who died at Darfield, December 26, 1907; aged twenty-six years. R.I.P.

To meet in heaven, how sweet the thought,
When life's short years are past;
No more to weep, no more to part,
To meet dear Mary at last.

To meet in heaven, around the throne
Of Him who died to save;
Be this our hope, our anxious care,
To meet beyond the grave.

—Inserted by her loving parents, brothers, and sisters.

MESSAGE OF POPE LEO XIII. TO THE N.Z. TABLET.

Pergant Directores et Scriptores New Zealand Tablet, Apostolica Benedictione confortati, Religionis et Justitiæ causam promovere per vias Veritatis et Pacis.

Die 4 Aprilis, 1900.

LEO XIII., P.M.

TRANSLATION.—Fortified by the Apostolic Blessing, let the Directors and Writers of the New Zealand Tablet continue to promote the cause of Religion and Justice by the ways of Truth and Peace.

April 4, 1900.

LEO XIII., Pope.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1908.

CHRISTMAS

In his *Meditations of a Parish Priest*, Joseph Roux quotes the much-worn saying: 'Time restores all things.' 'Wrong!' is his comment; 'time restores many things, but eternity restores all.' For many a year has Time—the friend of the good and the true—been busy in the work of restoring, to Reformed English-speaking peoples, the old and Catholic significance of the Christmas festival. Milton sang, indeed, of the month of the happy morn,

'Wherein the Son of Heaven's eternal King,
Of wedded maid and virgin mother born,
Our great redemption from above did bring.'

But in the middle of his life's course there swept on to triumph the bitter movement which penalised even the mildest effort to celebrate with social custom or religious rite that

'Most illustrious of the days of time,
Day full of joy and benison to earth,
When Thou was born, sweet Babe of Bethlehem!'

In 1644, when Milton was in his thirty-sixth year, the celebration of Christmas was forbidden by Act of Parliament; the legislature met on that sacred day; shops were, by express statutory provision, opened, markets held,

Christmas decorations abolished, the chiming of bells became an offence, and preaching and the holding of religious services were punishable by imprisonment and fine. And such innocent things as plum (formerly spelled 'plumb') puddings and the harmless, necessary mince-pie were condemned as whiffs of heathenry by the preachers of the day. The lovers of the old order maintained, as long as they dared, a passive—sometimes an active—resistance, and on the first 'illegal' Christmas day blood dyed the snow on the streets of Canterbury. In Scotland, rest and feasting and church-going on Christmas Day were penalised, women were compelled to work in public view, and, generally, no effort was spared to blot out the memory of this sacred anniversary from the minds of the people. The reaction set in with the Restoration. The Puritans, however, still raised a sullen protest, which manifested itself (among various other ways) by the nickname of 'Fooltide' which they flung at Yuletide or Christmas. The spiritual significance of the festival was, however, in great part gone. Charles Dickens stands forth as more than any other Protestant Englishman the new apostle of the kindly old-time Christmas social and domestic ceremonies. The revival of the festival in Great Britain was also promoted, in no small degree, by the action of the Prince Consort in introducing the Christmas tree into England in 1840. The Oxford Movement and the Catholic Revival worked independently upon the growing sentiment, and threw about the celebration of the festival the tender religious feeling which gave so genial a warmth to the old 'merrie Chrystemasse' of the pre-Reformation days. Christmas celebrations have long secured the force of custom in most Anglican churches; some of the Nonconformist denominations are following in a tentative way; and we may hope that in time a steadily growing number of our separated brethren will go and do likewise.

Notes

Spiritism

In our last issue we read the Riot Act to a series of recently published and sensational sermons by a Catholic preacher on the subject of spiritism. We are glad to note that, in its November issue, the New York *Catholic World* states that 'evidently a promiscuous diffusion' of this book 'might do as much harm as good.' And, adds our able and esteemed New York contemporary, books and sermons tending to put into the background the common belief of Catholics that spiritism is little else but deceit and delusion, may, perhaps, 'evoke a dangerous curiosity that may lead them to the mediums and the séance parlors.'

Boys and 'Bacca

At Port Chalmers, and in two or three other places during the past few weeks, tobacco-smoking boys have been haled before the bench of justice and sternly cautioned 'not to do it again.' The lesson is well worth giving to a young nation that does not wish its future manhood to tread the path of physical degeneracy and unfitness that has robbed Great Britain of so appreciable a percentage of her powers of production and of national defence. In Holland boys smoke rather freely; and in some unwise parts of Mexico the cigarette has reached the position of being a prize-stimulus to proficiency in study. But Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes's eloquent warring ever stands, both for tropical and sub-tropical and other lands: that youthful indulgence in the reverie-breeding narcotic is one of the sure ways of blighting the flower of youth's early promise.

A Non-Catholic Tribute

The London *Catholic Weekly* of November 6 quotes a kindly reference to Catholic missionaries, made by Sir Robert Hart (Inspector-General of Chinese Customs since 1863) at a Wesleyan Mission Exhibition at Leeds during the previous week. 'Although,' said he, 'many of you may not agree with me, I cannot omit on an occasion such as this to refer to the admirable work done by the Roman Catholic missionaries, among whom are to be found the most devoted and self-sacrificing of Christ's followers. The Roman Catholic missions have done great work both in spreading the knowledge of our God and our Saviour and more especially in their self-sacrifice in the cause of deserted children and afflicted adults. Their organisation as a society is far ahead of any other, and they are second to none in zeal and self-sacrifice personally. One strong point in their arrangement is in the fact that there is never a break in continuity, while there is perfect union in teaching and practice, and practical sympathy with their people in both the life of this world and the prepara-

JOHN GOLLAR, Bread and Biscuit Baker,
Pastrycook and Confectioner
(Established 1860) Corner Albany & Leith Sts
DUNEDIN.

All goods guaranteed of the best quality and sold at the lowest possible prices
WEDDING and BIRTHDAY CAKES made to order.
Gollar's Celebrated Digestive Bread prepared from pure wheatmeal, and admitted to be the best yet produced. Patent Self-Raising Flour prepared, and always on hand
All Orders punctually attended to and delivered in Town and Suburbs

tion for eternity. The Roman Catholics were the first in the field, they are the most widely spread, and they have the largest number of followers.

There is probably no greater living authority on China and the Chinese than Sir Robert Hart.

THE NEW ZEALAND CATHOLIC HIERARCHY AND THE PAPAL JUBILEE

We have received from the Right Rev. the Bishop of Auckland the following translation of the Jubilee address from the New Zealand hierarchy presented by Bishop Lenihan to the Holy Father:—

'Most Holy Father,

'We, the Archbishop and Bishops of New Zealand, prostrate at the feet of Your Holiness, gladly availing ourselves of this fitting and most happy occasion when the Catholic World is about to celebrate with the utmost joy Your Sacrodotial Jubilee, return You hearty thanks for the recent Encyclical Letter *On the Doctrines of the Modernists*.

'Although the impious and insane errors condemned by the Supreme Pastor and Interpreter and Defender of the Faith has infected very few if any, at least among Catholics, in this region, yet as such errors have wings which enable them to fly soon to all parts of the earth, their condemnation by Your Voice has been most opportune.

'That all who have been infected with these errors may return to the truth now they have been admonished and enlightened by the words of Your Holiness, we earnestly beseech Almighty God, through the intercession of the Immaculate Virgin Mary, and we shall do all in our power that the decrees of Your Holiness may lead to a happy and most fruitful result.

'For our faithful flocks and for ourselves we most humbly beg the Apostolic Benediction.

'✠ Francis, Archbishop of Wellington; ✠ John Joseph, Bishop of Christchurch; ✠ Michael Verdon, Bishop of Dunedin; ✠ George Michael, Bishop of Auckland.

'Wellington, February 22, A.D. 1908.'

The Holy Father (says Rome) was pleased to return the address to Bishop Lenihan after adding to it the following autograph: 'To Our Venerable Brothers, congratulating them and begging for them from the Lord all success in their Apostolate, We most lovingly bestow the Apostolic Benediction in token of Our affection, and We extend the same to the faithful entrusted to their care.'

'October 29, 1908.'

'PIUS, PP. X.'

DIOCESE OF DUNEDIN

On Sunday, December 13, in St. Joseph's Cathedral, twenty-five young ladies were received into the Sodality of the Children of Mary.

Miss Pearl Evans, a pupil of the Dominican Convent, Queenstown, obtained honors (130 marks) in the Advanced Grade, Associated Board, at the examination held recently in Invercargill.

In a private note received in Dunedin from the Right Rev. Dr. Lenihan, his Lordship gives an interesting account of the preparations which were being made in Rome at date of writing for the celebration of the Holy Father's Jubilee. His Lordship states that he was to spend Christmas in London, and hopes to arrive in Auckland about the middle of February.

Rev. Father Lynch, of Palmerston, in the course of a private letter, states that he paid a visit recently to Lourdes, and saw everywhere during his visit evidences of the faith, piety, and devotion of the people. In company with the Very Rev. Father Power, of Hawera, and Rev. Father Luby, of Melbourne, he was received in private audience by the Holy Father, whom they found a most benignant and charming personality.

The following are the results of the musical examination in connection with the Associated Board of the Royal Academy and the Royal College of Music, London, recently held at the Dominican Convent, Invercargill, by Mr. T. Dunhill:—Elementary division—D. Hamilton, 120; M. Rankin, 119; L. Greig, 104; M. Stretell, 101. Primary division—R. Shepherd, 130 (distinction); M. McAlister, 128; D. Martin, 125. All the candidates presented for examination were successful.

A solemn Requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of Mrs. Lynch, mother of Rev. Fathers James and John Lynch, and sister of the Very Rev. Dean Burke, was celebrated in St. Joseph's Cathedral on Friday morning. The

Rev. Father Corcoran was celebrant, Rev. Father J. Lynch deacon, Rev. Father Hearn subdeacon, Rev. Father Coffey master of ceremonies, Rev. Fathers Liston and Morkane cantors. The other priests present were Rev. Fathers O'Dea, Howard, Delany, M. Ryan, Buckley, D. O'Neill, and Cleary.

A meeting was held on Sunday evening in St. Joseph's Hall for the purpose of making arrangements for the annual schools picnic. The Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., presided, and there were also present Rev. Fathers Howard and Corcoran. Mr. J. Salmon read the report and balance sheet for the last picnic, which showed that it had been in every way a success. Mr. Salmon was unanimously elected secretary for the next outing, which it was decided to hold at Outram on Wednesday, February 3. Those present were appointed a general committee, and Rev. Brother Brady, and Messrs. Hill, Mead, Swanson, Marlow, and Purton a sports committee. Mesdames Powell, Jackson, and Swanson (Dunedin), and Mrs. McCurdy and Miss Long (South Dunedin) were appointed to collect subscriptions on behalf of the prize fund.

At the meeting of the ladies' branch of the St. Vincent de Paul Society in St. Joseph's Hall on Friday afternoon, advantage was taken of the occasion to present the secretary, Miss Dozie Purton, with an address, a silver hot water kettle on stand (suitably inscribed), a silver-mounted oak tray, and three nicely framed pictures, in connection with her approaching marriage. The address, which was in a handsome frame, was artistically illuminated by the Dominican nuns. The pictures were the gift of Miss Mary Callan, the youngest subscribing member of the society. The Rev. Father Coffey, Adm., presided, and the Rev. Father Corcoran was also present. The following address to Miss Purton, which was signed by the spiritual director and all the active members of the society, was read by Father Coffey:—'We, the undersigned members of the above association, on behalf of ourselves and the members generally, beg to offer to you our very hearty congratulations on your approaching marriage. You have been connected with us now for the past ten years, and during eight of them you have filled the important position of secretary. Your amiable and obliging nature has always made it a pleasure to work with you, and your never-failing charity and tenderness of heart have been an example to many of us who from time to time have felt ourselves discouraged by what is sometimes thankless work. With this small recognition of your valuable co-operation in the cause of charity, please accept our sincere good wishes that you may enjoy health, happiness, and prosperity in the coming years.' Father Coffey, supplementing the expressions of praise and appreciation contained in the address, said that during the time he was connected with the St. Vincent de Paul Society he had ample opportunities of noticing the active part which Miss Purton took in its work. She was always ready to do what lay in her power to further the objects of the society. Although she was about to undertake new responsibilities in life, he felt confident that she would still assist in the works of charity with which she had been identified for the past eight or ten years. On behalf of the priests of Dunedin, he tendered her his heartiest congratulations, and on the part of the ladies of the St. Vincent de Paul Society he asked her to accept these gifts as a slight token of their appreciation of the work she had done for it, and on their behalf he wished Miss Purton a long, happy, and pleasant future. Rev. Father Corcoran replied on behalf of Miss Purton. On Thursday evening Miss Purton was the recipient of a dinner service and address from the pupils of the Mornington Catholic Sunday-School, of which she has been in charge for some years. The presentation took place at the residence of Mr. Power, and was made by Rev. Father Coffey, who referred in eulogistic terms to the self-sacrificing work of Miss Purton on behalf of the Catholic children of the district. Mr. T. Hussey replied on behalf of Miss Purton.

DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH

(From our own correspondent.)

December 21.

There was Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from the eleven o'clock Mass until after Vespers at St. Mary's Church, Manchester street North, on Sunday last.

The Marist Brothers of the South Island are to assemble in Christchurch for the annual retreat from January 2 to 9.

The annual retreat of the Sisters of the Missions, which is to be conducted by the Very Rev. Dr. Kennedy, S.M., of Meane, commences on Saturday, December 26.

The annual spiritual retreat of the diocesan clergy will commence in the Cathedral on January 12. The retreat is to conclude on the following Sunday, after which the annual synod will be held.

J. TAIT, Monumental Sculptor
273 Cashel Street W., Christchurch.

Just over Bridge and opposite Drill Shed. Manufacturer and Importer of Every Description of Headstones, Cross Monuments etc., in Granite, Marble and other stones.

The children who made their First Communion on Sunday week at St. Mary's Church, Manchester street, were entertained in the schoolroom at breakfast, which was provided by the ladies of the congregation, and were attended by the Sisters of Mercy.

The Rev. Father James Gilbert, a native of Westland, lately ordained for the diocese by his Eminence Cardinal Moran, is expected to arrive shortly, and is to be located in the Ahaura district.

Continuing his series of discourses in the Cathedral on 'The Church of our forefathers,' his Lordship the Bishop on Sunday evening treated of the Anglo-Saxon times, when the Church was in communion with Rome, proving from historical records that as a nation the origin of British Christianity was due to the Popes.

The annual retreat of the Sisters of Mercy, which is being conducted by the Very Rev. Father Bannin, C.S.S.R., commenced at St. Mary's Convent, Colombo street North, on last Friday evening. The Rev. Father McGrath, C.S.S.R., is engaged conducting a retreat at Mount Magdala.

Members of the executive committee of the St. Patrick's Day celebration, whose particular object is to aid the funds of the institution, met on last Tuesday evening at Nazareth House to arrange necessary details in connection with the foundation stone ceremonial of the new building on the afternoon of January 17. His Lordship the Bishop presided, and various suggestions were advanced and action taken in matters requiring immediate attention.

A social evening was given on last Tuesday by the Christchurch Catholic Club, for which a large number of invitations were issued. His Lordship the Bishop and Rev. Father Moloney, S.M., were present. The president, Mr. J. R. Hayward, presided. Songs were contributed by the Rev. Father Moloney, Messrs. Schwartz, Beveridge, and J. R. Hayward, and Mr. R. McNamara recited. In furtherance of the object of the gathering, the president outlined the special purposes of the club, and formulated a motion to the effect that 'all present pledge themselves to join and promote by all possible means the interests of the Christchurch Catholic Club.' His Lordship the Bishop supported the motion, and gave an address endorsing the president's remarks, showing the position the club should really occupy in regard to Catholic young men. After refreshments, there was an oratorical competition for the Federated Catholic Young Men's Societies' diploma, in which there were four contestants. Messrs. J. R. Hayward and Eric Harper acted as judges, with his Lordship the Bishop as supervisor. Mr. J. McNamara ('Henry Grattan'), with 70 points out of a possible 100, was adjudged the winner; Mr. P. McNamara ('Robert Emmet') was awarded 68 points, and Mr. D. Dennehy ('William Pitt') 64, and Mr. H. Salmon ('Richard Seddon') 62.

DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

(By Telegraph from our own correspondent.)

December 21.

His Lordship the Bishop is expected to return in February next.

A new presbytery will soon be erected at Taumarunui for Rev. Father Molloy. The parish is fast growing into a position of importance.

The sad news of the death of Mr. Molloy, father of the Rev. Father Molloy, of Taumarunui, has been received from Ireland. Father Molloy has received a number of messages of condolence from various parts of the diocese.

Two old parishioners of St. Patrick's—Mesdames Kavanagh and Clarke—passed away a few days ago. Both were well known at the Cathedral, where for many years they had regularly attended. Both have left sons and daughters to mourn the loss of good, pious, and exemplary mothers who were devoted to God and Holy Church. R.I.P.

Rev. Mother Aquinas, of Sisters of Mercy, Auckland, who was accompanied by Sister Felicitas, returned yesterday by the Manuka from Australia, where she had been on business connected with her community. The Right Rev. Monsignor O'Haran, who had been most kind to them in Sydney, came down to the steamer to see them off.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament took place at St. Benedict's yesterday, commencing after last Mass, and continuing through the afternoon until Vespers. The handsome altar was beautifully decorated, and looked well amidst a profusion of lighted candles. The Sisters of St. Joseph are to be complimented for their great taste and zeal. Large numbers of the faithful visited the Blessed Sacrament during hours of exposition.

Mr. W. Cleland, formerly a London solicitor, died at Mater Misericordiae Hospital yesterday. He had been

ailing for many years, during most of which period he had been at the Mater Hospital under the Sisters' care, to whom he often expressed his gratitude. He was a devout Catholic, and a patriotic Irishman. He loved Ireland wholeheartedly, and was well acquainted with the late Mr. Parnell. He was acquainted as well with other leaders at Home. R.I.P.

The results obtained by the pupils of St. Joseph's Convent in the recent London College musical examinations (practical) are as follow:—Advanced senior (pass)—Cecily Douglas, 74; senior (honors), Eileen Jenkins, 87; intermediate (honors), Madge Maun, 90 (first-class pass); Nora Smith, 88; Fanny McGettigan, 77; Ella Charlton, 76. Junior—First-class pass, E. Cooney, 78; K. Draffin, 75 (pass); A. Shaw, 72; M. Alexander, 71; Dorothy King, 70. Primary—First-class pass, Irene McLaren, 92; Kathleen Bowen, 90; Irene Sheehan, 85; Millie Keogh, 81. The examinations were conducted by Dr. E. Thomas, who expressed himself as well pleased with the standard of efficiency attained.

Father Ormond, recently ordained at Propaganda College, Roma, for this diocese, arrived here yesterday from Australia. He was met on arrival by his parents and other relatives and by many friends, and accorded a most hearty welcome. He celebrated Mass shortly after arrival in the Chapel of St. Patrick's Convent, Hobson street, at which his father, mother, and sisters were present; also Rev. Mother Aquinas, several Sisters of Mercy, and a few friends. During the afternoon he called on the Very Rev. Dean Gillan, V.G., who kindly gave him permission to remain for a while with his parents before commencing his missionary labors. On Tuesday evening Father Ormond will be accorded a welcome by his many friends in the Hibernian Hall.

On Thursday evening, in St. Patrick's Convent School, Hobson street, on the occasion of the anniversary of the Rev. Father Murphy's ordination, the Children of Mary, through the Rev. Father Meagher, presented him with a beautiful and costly alb. An address in the form of a poem was read by Miss Kathleen Owens. Rev. Father Murphy, in reply, thanked the donors for their handsome and useful present, which as often as he wore it in celebrating Holy Mass he would pray for them. The following programme was given:—Pianoforte solos, Misses M. Sheahan, K. Owens, and Denz; songs, Misses C. McKenna and N. Rist; recitation, Miss M. Sheahan; vocal duet, Misses E. Miller and M. Sheahan; chorus, 'Many happy returns of the day,' the Children of Mary.

Nelson

(From an occasional correspondent.)

December 11.

It is with sincere regret I have to record the death of Sister Mary St. Sylvia, of the Order of Our Lady of Missions, which took place at the convent, Nelson, on November 26, after a long and painful illness. Her loss will be keenly felt, particularly by the children, with whom she was a general favorite, and all of whom followed her remains to their last resting place in the Wakapuaka cemetery.—R.I.P.

Last Tuesday night, a rather amusing incident occurred while the nuns of the convent were celebrating the feast of the Immaculate Conception. They had brilliantly illuminated the whole building for the occasion, especially the large statue of Our Lady in the front of the building. The illuminations, as observed from the town through the trees, appeared as if the convent was on fire. Under this impression somebody sounded an alarm. Soon all the bells in the town were going, and the brigade turned out in force. They proceeded to the convent followed by police and a large number of people. When they arrived in front of the building, breathless from their exertions, they could only gaze in wonder at the scene. The illuminations were successfully carried out by Mr. H. A. Hobbs.

On Monday last St. Mary's Hall was packed by about four hundred children and a large number of adults, when a lecture illustrated by lantern views was given by Mr. C. Y. Fell, who recently returned from a trip to Europe. A beautiful series of views, taken by himself, of various places of interest observed on his tour, were presented to the audience by one of Hughes' powerful biunial lanterns owned and operated by Mr. H. A. Hobbs. The views comprised scenes on board ship, voyage round Cape Horn and up the coast of America, from thence to Lisbon, London, and Norfolk. From this beautiful part of England they hurried through Normandy, Brittany, Paris, Florence, and Naples, where they boarded ship for New Zealand. The audience were kept highly interested right through the proceedings. At the conclusion Rev. Father Clancy thanked Mr. Fell for the lecture on behalf of the audience.

WEDDING BELLS

McCABE—HOGAN.

A quiet wedding (writes a correspondent) was solemnised at St. Peter's Church, Otahuhu, on November 26, when Mr. William McCabe, of County Wexford, was united in the bonds of Matrimony to Miss Cecilia Hogan, youngest daughter of Mr. J. P. Hogan, of Otahuhu, formerly of Blenheim. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Father Buckley, who also celebrated the Nuptial Mass. The bride, who was given away by her father, wore a dress of cream silk voile, trimmed with insertion and cream net, and the usual wreath and veil. The bridesmaid was Miss Elsie McSweeney, cousin of the bride; and Mr. George Rice acted as best man. A large number of friends adjourned to the residence of the bride's parents, where the wedding breakfast was partaken of. After the usual toasts were honored, the happy couple left for Te Aroha, where the honeymoon was spent, taking with them the best wishes of a large circle of friends.

At the synchronous examination of the Sixth Standard pupils of the Wanganui schools conducted on December 1 by Mr. T. B. Strong, M.A., at the Queen's Park School, the following boys from the Marist Brothers were successful:—G. Cronin, W. Briggs, F. Grogan, M. Meehan, J. McCulloch, and J. Quirk. The first mentioned gained a certificate of competency, the other five certificates of proficiency.

NEW ZEALAND RAILWAYS

NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS, 1909.

The following ALTERATIONS IN and ADDITIONS TO the Ordinary Train Service will be made in connection with the above:—

THURSDAY, 31st DECEMBER, FRIDAY, 1st JANUARY, and SATURDAY, 2nd JANUARY.

An extra express train for Balclutha will leave Dunedin at 9.5 a.m., arriving Balclutha 11.25 a.m. This train connects with Lawrence and Catlins River Branch trains, and will stop at Caversham and Mosgiel to pick up passengers, and at Henley, Titiri, Waiholo, Milton, and Stirling to pick up or set down passengers.

An extra express train will leave Balclutha at 4.30 p.m., arriving Dunedin 6.56 p.m. This train connects with trains from Catlins River and Lawrence Branches. Will stop at Stirling, Milton, Waiholo, Henley; also Mosgiel to Caversham (inclusive) to pick up or set down passengers.

The train usually leaving Dunedin for Clinton at 8.55 a.m. will not leave till 9.40 a.m.

Train for Dunedin will leave Mosgiel at 6.50 p.m.

THURSDAY, 31st DECEMBER.

An extra express train for Oamaru will leave Dunedin at 11.0 a.m., Waitati 11.52 a.m., Seacliff 12.16 p.m., Puketeraki 12.23 p.m., Waikouaiti 12.39 p.m., Palmerston 1.7 p.m., Hampden 1.47 p.m., Herbert, 2.15 p.m., Maheno 2.27 p.m., arriving Oamaru at 2.50 p.m. Will stop where timed and at Shag Point and Hillgrove to pick up or set down passengers, also at Port Chalmers Upper to pick up passengers for stations at which train stops.

Train for Oamaru and intermediate stations will leave Dunedin at 11.15 p.m.

Train for Christchurch will leave Dunedin at 10.45 p.m.

Train will leave Dunedin for Mosgiel at 11.20 p.m.

Train will leave Dunedin for Balclutha at 6.15 p.m., connecting with trains for Lawrence and Catlins River Branches. Will take passengers for Owhiro and stations south thereof only.

The express train leaving Dunedin at 5.45 p.m. will not take passengers for Milton, Stirling, and Balclutha, and stations on Lawrence and Catlins River Branches.

Train will leave Dunedin for Invercargill at 11.20 p.m.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, 1st and 2nd JANUARY.

SPORTS AT OAMARU, 1st and 2nd JANUARY.

RACES AT WAIKOUAITI, 1st JANUARY.

SPORTS AT PALMERSTON, 2nd JANUARY.

The 5.45 a.m. Dunedin-Palmerston train will NOT run.

An extra express train will leave Dunedin for Palmerston at 9.25 a.m., stopping at the following stations: Waitati 10.26 a.m., Seacliff 10.55 a.m., Puketeraki 11.4

a.m., Waikouaiti 11.18 a.m., arriving Palmerston 11.40 a.m.

Extra express trains will leave Palmerston for Dunedin at 5.50 p.m. and 6.40 p.m., stopping at Waikouaiti, Puketeraki, Seacliff, Waitati; also at Port Chalmers Upper to allow passengers to alight, arriving Dunedin 8.0 p.m. and 9.0 p.m. respectively.

Trains for Palmerston and intermediate stations will leave Dunedin at 8.16 a.m., 9.50 a.m., and 10.30 a.m. Return trains stopping at intermediate stations will leave Palmerston at 4.5 p.m. and 6.0 p.m., arriving Dunedin 7.15 p.m. and 8.45 p.m. respectively.

Train will leave Oamaru for Dunedin and intermediate stations at 10.15 p.m.

The 5.0 a.m. Dunedin-Balclutha train will NOT run.

Train will leave Outram for Mosgiel at 6.10 p.m., returning leaving Mosgiel at 7.10 p.m., connecting at Mosgiel with trains to and from Dunedin.

Trains will leave Mosgiel for Dunedin at 6.50 p.m. and 8.25 p.m.

FRIDAY, 1st JANUARY.

Special express train will leave Dunedin at 7.30 a.m., arriving Oamaru 11.5 a.m. This train will stop at Ravensbourne, Port Chalmers Upper, Waitati, Seacliff, Waikouaiti, Palmerston, Shag Point, Hillgrove, and Hampden only.

Special express train will leave Oamaru at 7.0 p.m., arriving Dunedin at 10.45 p.m. Train will stop at Maheno, Herbert, Hampden, Hillgrove, Shag Point, Palmerston, Waikouaiti, Seacliff, Waitati, Port Chalmers Upper, and Ravensbourne only.

The train usually leaving Dunedin for Port Chalmers at 8.25 p.m. will not leave till 9.20 p.m.

The train usually leaving Port Chalmers for Dunedin at 9.25 p.m. will not leave till 10.3 p.m.

Train will leave Dunedin for Mosgiel at 11.20 p.m.

SPORTS AT MIDDLEMARCH.

Train for Middlemarch will leave Dunedin at 7.45 a.m.

Trains for Dunedin and intermediate stations will leave Middlemarch at 5.15 p.m. and 6.35 p.m.

SATURDAY, 2nd JANUARY.

The 1.50 p.m. Dunedin-Palmerston Seaside Train will NOT run.

Train for Balclutha will leave Dunedin at 6.15 p.m. This train connects with trains for Lawrence and Catlins River Branches. Will take passengers for Owhiro and stations south thereof only.

The express train leaving Dunedin at 5.45 p.m. will not take passengers from Dunedin for Milton, Stirling, Balclutha, and stations on Lawrence and Catlins River Branches.

Train will leave Dunedin for Mosgiel at 10.20 p.m.

SUNDAY, 3rd JANUARY.

Train for Christchurch will leave Dunedin at 8.0 p.m.

Train for Dunedin will leave Christchurch at 8.0 p.m., Dunedin arrive 6.10 a.m. on Monday.

Train for Invercargill will leave Dunedin at 9.0 p.m.

Train for Dunedin will leave Invercargill at 9.35 p.m., arriving Dunedin at 4.5 a.m. on Monday.

Holiday excursion tickets are not available by certain trains. For particulars see daily press. Passengers will not be booked from Dunedin to Waitati by the Up Mail and Up Express trains leaving Dunedin at 8.0 a.m. and 1.26 p.m. respectively, on 31st December and 1st and 2nd January.

For further particulars see posters and handbills, at all stations.

BY ORDER.

Convent of the Sacred Heart

TIMARU

The Annual Spiritual Retreat for Ladies

Will begin at 7 p.m. on Monday, the 4th day of January, 1909, and will end on the morning of Saturday, the 9th day of January.

The Retreat will be Preached by a Jesuit Father.

Ladies desirous of making the Retreat are invited to lodge at the Convent, where they will find every accommodation.

Application should be made as soon as possible to the Reverend Mother Superior.

A. & T. INGLIS

Beg to announce that their Annual Summer Sale will commence on Thursday, November 25th when the Whole of their Large Stocks in All Departments will be offered at Greatly Reduced Prices. . .

Visitors to Dunedin DURING SHOW WEEK and the month of December are respectfully asked to call and participate in the Exceptional Bargains offered.

A. & T. INGLIS,
THE CASH EMPORIUM, GEORGE ST., DUNEDIN

Established 1859.

NEW ZEALAND INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED.

(FIRE, MARINE AND ACCIDENT).

Capital -	-	-	-	£1,500,000
Paid-up Capital and Reserves -	-	-	-	£690,000
Net Revenue for 1907 -	-	-	-	£642,789

THE PREMIER COLONIAL COMPANY

Fire, Marine and Accident Risks accepted at Lowest Current Rates. Losses settled with promptitude and liberality.

OTAGO } FIRE AND MARINE—Corner of Rattray and Crawford Streets, Dunedin. WILLIAM I. BOLAM, Manager.
BRANCHES } ACCIDENT DAVID T. BROWNLIE, Manager.
FIRE, MARINE AND ACCIDENT—Thames Street, Oamaru. JAS. B. E. GRAVE, Manager.

J. BALLANTYNE & CO

SMART SUITS

LIGHT

COOL

COMFORTABLE

- BALLANTYNE'S -

Fashionable Flannels

In Sizes to suit most figures

In Styles to suit most fancies

CHRISTCHURCH

DALGETY & COMPANY, LTD

STOCK & STATION AGENTS, WOOL & PRODUCE BROKERS, MERCHANTS

Stock Sales conducted as follows: Weekly at Cattle yards, Dunedin

Country Sales as per arrangement

Rabbit-skins, Sheep-skins, Wool, Hides and Tallow: Weekly

USE CRITERION MANURES - - THEY ARE THE BEST

Agents: QUIBELL'S SHEEP DIPS; LLOYD'S LIVE STOCK INSURANCE; OCEAN ACCIDENT INSURANCE; VICTORIA FIRE INSURANCE; SHAW, SAVILL and ALBION SHIPPING COMPANY.



A Memo for December -

Visit the D.I.C. for Xmas & Wedding Gifts of all descriptions

A Unique Collection of Useful and Artistic Articles in Toys,
Silver and Leather Goods and China—Now on View.....

The Perpetual Trustees,

Estate and Agency Co. of N.Z., Ltd.

Subscribed Capital—£108,250.

Paid-up Capital—£9,375.

Directors:

WALTER HISLOP, Esq.

W. E. REYNOLDS, Esq.

ROBERT GLENDINING, Esq.

JAMES HAZLETT, Esq.

JOHN MILL, Esq.

THOS. W. KEMPTHORNE, Esq.

Managing Director: WALTER HISLOP, Esq.

Offices: CORNER OF VOGEL & RATTRAY

STREETS, DUNEDIN.

This Company acts as Executor or Trustee under wills and settlements; as Attorney for absentees or others; manages properties; negotiates loans; collects interest, rent, and dividends, and conducts all General Agency business. Full particulars are given in Company's pamphlet, a copy of which can be obtained on application.

Money Invested on Freehold Security.

A HIGH AUTHORITY ON

WAI-RONGOA MINERAL WATER.

Bottled only at Springs, Wai-Rongoa.

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 effervescent, 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.

THOMSON AND CO.

Office: Dunedin.

HOTEL METROPOLE, Rotorua.—Private Hotel (immediately opposite Station) The house for the tourists.—Telegrams, Metropole, Rotorua. Cead Mile Failte.

NOTICE TO DOCTORS AND PATIENTS.

Dominion Home

SHIRLEY RD., near CHRISTCHURCH

For Patients suffering from Nervous Instability, and who are in want of quietness and rest. The Home is nicely situated and well kept, with large grounds, affording ample scope for the recreation of patients. The Matron holds numerous testimonials from doctors and patients. Her knowledge of nursing and managing mental and inebriate cases is very wide. Further particulars can be had on application to the Matron and Proprietress,

MRS. A. M. HOMERSHAM.

FOR SALE—Campbell Gas and Oil Engines, Screw Jacks, Pulley Blocks, Wood Split Pulleys, Lancashire, Balata and Leather Beltings.

FOR SALE—Centrifugal Pumps, Worthington Duplex Steam Pumps;—on water and in stock 500 gals. to 15,000 gal. pumps.

Quotations given, and Orders executed for all classes of Mining and other Machinery

ROBT. B. DENNISTON & CO.
Stuart St.

HUGH GOURLEY

desires to inform the public he still continues the Undertaking Business as formerly at the Establishment, corner Clark and MacLaggan streets, Dunedin.

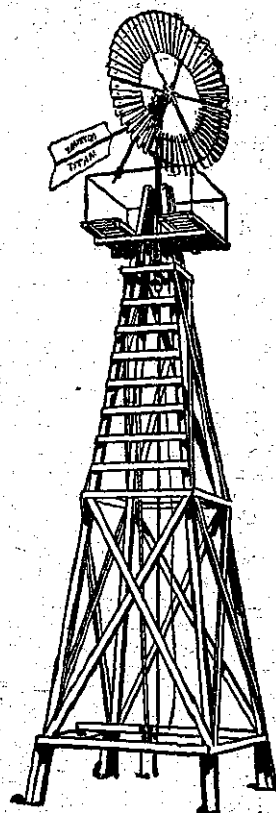
Funerals attended in Town or Country with promptness and economy.

GLADSTONE HOTEL

CHRISTCHURCH.

Good Accommodation for Travellers.
The Very Best of Wines, Ales, and Spirits in Stock.

H. PIPER.....Proprietor.



TITAN WINDMILLS

If interested in a Cheap, Effective Farm or Domestic Water Supply,

.....Write to.....

THOMAS DANKS

198 and 200 Lichfield St

CHRISTCHURCH.

Irish News

ANTRIM—A Handsome Pension

Sir Samuel Black, who has been Town Clerk of Belfast for the past twenty years, is retiring on a pension of £2000 a year.

Mammoth Steamers

The officials of the White Star Line have made public the dimensions of the two steamers to be built for the passenger service of that company. The vessels, which have been named the Olympic and the Titanic, are to be 850 feet long, and of sufficient beam and depth to measure 45,000 gross tons, or 14,000 gross tons larger than the Lusitania and the Mauretania, of the Cunard Line, which are now the world's largest ships. It is expected the Olympic will be in the service in the latter part of 1910. The speed of the ships has been determined as 21 knots, sufficient to make the voyage from Southampton, Cherbourg, and Queenstown in seven days, and give comfortable passage to those who look on sea voyages with misgivings. Most luxurious accommodation for passengers is to be provided.

CLARE—Bravery Rewarded

The thrilling rescues from the 'Leon XIII.' at Quilty in October of last year have been recalled by the presentations of medals and money prizes to the brave fishermen of that sea-swept village; also to several ladies and gentlemen and some members of the R.I.C. and of the coastguard service, who lent assistance on shore. Mr. A. De Prins, French Consul in Limerick, who presided at an open-air meeting at Spanish Point, made the presentations, prefacing the ceremony with a neat speech, expressing his admiration for the heroic conduct of the Quilty men, and the pleasure it gave him to be the medium of making the presentation. Silver medals were presented to Dr. and Mrs. Healy, Berry Lodge; Mr. Reid, D.I.; Dr. Blood, Mr. R. G. E. Ellis, Mr. E. A. Ellis, Mr. H. R. Glynn, and Mr. H. P. Harris.

CORK—Capuchin Students

Among those admitted to the B.A. Degree in Mental and Moral Science, at the conferring of degrees at the Royal University, Dublin, on October 30, were four Capuchin students from the Franciscan Capuchin College, Rochestown, County Cork. The names of the students are Brother Ignatius Collins, Brother Cyril Sullivan, Brother Coleman Griffin, and Brother Philip King. They passed in the Honors' Course, and Brother Ignatius Collins secured Second Class Honors, value £21.

Four Sons in the Priesthood

An esteemed merchant in Midleton (writes a Dublin correspondent) has passed away in the person of Mr. Edmund Barry, which occurred at his residence, Main street, after an illness of several weeks' duration. The deceased was brother of Rev. J. Barry, P.P., Carrigtwohill, and had the distinction of having four sons in the priesthood, three of whom are on the Australian mission, and the fourth, the Rev. David Barry, in Glasgow. A fifth son, also destined for the sacred ministry, is a student of Blackrock College. For a number of years the late Mr. Barry had been a member of the Town Commissioners of Midleton, and as a public representative he afforded the greatest satisfaction. A resolution of condolence with his family has been passed by the Urban Council.

DUBLIN—Progress of Temperance

In supporting a vote of thanks to Sir Andrew Reed, K.C.B., late Inspector General, Royal Irish Constabulary, for a lecture delivered by him under the auspices of the Dublin Women's Temperance Association, Mr. Wigam said that in Messrs. Jacob's factory in Dublin nearly all the workers wore Father Cullen's Pioneer badge. He was glad to say that the membership of the Pioneer Association was now about 90,000, and that splendid result was largely due to the help of noble women, amongst whom he mentioned Mrs. A. M. Sullivan.

University College

A dinner was given at University College, Dublin, on October 29 in celebration of the silver jubilee of the establishment of the Irish Jesuits at the College. The Very Rev. Dr. Delany, S.J., presided. Speeches were delivered by his Grace the Archbishop of Tuam, Lord Castletown, Chancellor of the Royal University, and Professor George Sigerson.

The National University

Lord Castletown, speaking at the annual conferring of degrees at the Royal University in Dublin on October 29, announced that the name of the new institution to be estab-

lished in Dublin under Mr. Birrell's Act is 'The National University.'

CORK—Doing Admirable Work

A sentence of imprisonment passed on a Cork bookseller in June last by local magistrates, for having exposed in his shop window postcards of an indecent nature, has been upset on technical grounds by the King's Bench, consisting of the Lord Chief Justice, Judge Madden, and Judge Kenny. In an affidavit the accused stated that since the conviction he had ascertained that four of the magistrates adjudicating were members of the Cork Young Men's Society, for which Mr. John Long was the nominal prosecutor. Judge Madden remarked that every right-thinking magistrate ought to be a member of a society with so good an object. The Lord Chief Justice said that the Court held that the conviction was bad for uncertainty. It was to be remembered that throughout the case it was not for a moment suggested that these magistrates were actuated by conscious bias. His Lordship thought that a prosecution of this sort was most valuable, having for its object to put an end to the demoralising indecency that exists in some places, and is fostered and encouraged by the exhibition of these indecent cards. He thought that the Young Men's Society of Cork was to be greatly commended if they did initiate this prosecution.

DONEGAL—An Officious Policeman

The provisions in the Catholic Emancipation Act precluding Catholic priests from appearing outside Catholic churches or private houses in their vestments have not been wholly treated as a dead letter. Many years ago (says the *Freeman*), the late Right Rev. Monsignor and Dean McFadden, the revered Dean of Raphoe and parish priest of Donegal, who died last March, full of years and of honors, when a young clergyman in the parish of Glenties was summoned to Petty Sessions by an over-zealous District Inspector for the offence of walking attired in his vestments from his church to the school. The Monsignor treated the summons with the contempt it deserved, the proceedings were stayed, and the District Inspector was quickly transferred from Glenties to some other sphere of usefulness, and for the exercise of his devotion to the cause of law and order on which 'all our happiness depends.'

DUBLIN—Royal University Successes

A summary of the total successes attained by the leading colleges in Ireland at the Honors Examinations in Arts of the Royal University during the session 1907-8, shows that University College, Dublin, won one hundred and sixty-three distinctions; Maynooth College, 54; Loreto College, Stephen's Green, 52; Queen's College, Belfast, 46; St. Mary's Dominican College, Eccles street, 36; Queen's College, Galway, 10; Blackrock College, 10; Queen's College, Cork, 6.

Some Eloquent Figures

There are some figures (says the *Catholic Times*) which speak volumes in a very small space. Of such are the figures which give in a little table the results, so far as the students of the 'approved colleges' are concerned, of the Honors Examinations in Arts of the Royal University of Ireland. The Very Rev. Dr. Delany, S.J., who supplies the table to the *Times*, sets forth in a separate column the relative cost to public funds of the approved colleges. We find accordingly that whilst University College, Dublin, carried off 78 first class Honors and prizes, the number won by the Queen's College, Belfast, the Queen's College, Galway, the Queen's College, Cork, and Magee College, Derry, number together only 20; that University College, has to its credit 85 second-class honors and prizes, and the other four colleges together 46; and that whereas the total for the Dublin College is 163, the total for the three Queen's Colleges and Magee College is only 86. Not less striking is the financial contrast. Whilst the cost to the public funds of the Queen's and Magee Colleges is £25,400, University College gets only £6000 from the same source. Supporters of the Belfast College have been grumbling because the new Belfast University, which is identical with it, receives only £28,000 a year, though the Dublin University obtains £32,000. Let them propose that the grants should be regulated by merit as tested by results.

LIMERICK—Gift of Books

Mr. P. F. Collier, New York, has, in response to an application of Mr. J. P. McNamara, Curator of the Carnegie Free Library, Limerick, presented close on five hundred volumes as a gift to the library.

MAYO—The County Quiet and Orderly

Addressing the Grand Jury at the Mayo Criminal Sessions, County Court Judge Murphy said he had great pleasure in being able to congratulate them upon the condition of the county so far as matters appeared before him. A

J. O'ROURKE,

First-class OUTFITTER, HATTER & MERCER, STAFFORD STREET TIMARU

All Goods Direct from Manufacturer to Customer. Finest Stock in South Canterbury.

Up-to-date Tailoring in charge of a First-rate Cutter. Prices Strictly Moderate

period of three and a half months had elapsed since the assizes were held, and in the interval only two cases had occurred which would go before them. Those two cases came from near Ballinrobe, and so far as his Honor knew, the rest of the county appeared to be in a quiet and orderly condition, which was very satisfactory.

TIPPERARY—Important Land Sale

Through the combined efforts of the Rev. T. Dooley, Silvermines; Rev. T. O'Donoghue, Templeberry, and Rev. Father Murphy, Ballinahinch, negotiations have been completed for the transfer of the estate of Lord Dunalley, the second largest estate in Ireland, and containing 21,000 acres with 500 tenants, under the provisions of the Land Act of 1903, to the occupiers.

Cultivating Catholic Support

Right Rev. Dr. Archdall, speaking at the seventy-second annual meeting of the Tipperary Protestant Orphan Society in Nenagh, said there was a danger that the Government would some day seek to deprive them of their small schools, and it was desirable in the interests of religious education, that these schools should be retained. They had the assistance of the Catholic Episcopate in that matter, for the Catholic Bishops were very anxious to retain their schools in the interests of denominational teaching, and in them the Church of Ireland had its most potent supporters. The Church of Ireland had, therefore, on account of the enormous population of Catholics, a very powerful safeguard in the matter, and they should try to cultivate Catholic support. They were quite prepared to give the Bishops of the Catholic Church credit for kinder feelings than existed in former days, and certainly he felt that the Protestant population were more reasonable in their views of the Catholic position.

TYRONE—An Eloquent Representative

Cross the House once more to the Irish benches, the home of witty oratory (writes the author of some Parliamentary 'sketches' in the *Daily Mail*), and you will find a young Irishman who is destined to uphold the reputation of his countrymen and to make fame for himself. Mr. T. M. Kettle, member for East Tyrone, is still in the twenties, and is already one of the most fascinating speakers in the House of Commons. He is dark-haired and bright-eyed, and he has that peculiar irresistible Irish sparkle which softens even the hearts of the most bitter opponents of the Nationalists. Mr. Kettle is a barrister, but he has no legal dryness. He is the born orator, and not the man made into an orator by passionate conviction or the stress of circumstances. Wit and humor, denunciation and appeal, come from him, not merely fluently, but always with effect; while a rich and pleasant brogue sets off a deep musical voice. One of Mr. Kettle's finest speeches was on the occasion of the second reading of the Women's Suffrage Bill. 'Mr. Speaker,' he cried in his richest accent, 'they say that if we admit women here as members the House will lose in mental power.' He flung a finger round the benches. 'Mr. Speaker,' he said, 'it is impossible.' The House roared with laughter. 'They tell me that the House will suffer in morals. Mr. Speaker, I don't believe that is possible either.' Enthusiastic applause greeted him. Up above the reporters the occupants of the Ladies' Gallery were leaning forward delightedly, hardly to be restrained by the rules of the House from applauding. Rarely has the House had a more appealing picture than that of this dark-haired 'broth of a boy' defending the cause of the ladies with all the gallantry and wit of his native land.

GENERAL

A Handsome Offer

Mr. J. Devlin, M.P., speaking at Queenstown last week on his return from the United States, said that an Irish-American had guaranteed £20,000 towards the Home Rule Parliamentary Fund.

The Thanks of the Hierarchy

Speaking recently at a dinner at University College, Stephen's Green, the Archbishop of Tuam referred to the new Universities, and said the Bishops of Ireland had taken as they were bound to take, the deepest interest in the promotion of higher education in Ireland; and, what was more, he knew that for the last 25 years, at any rate, they had always ungrudgingly lent their best exertions in every practical way they could to bring about a satisfactory settlement of the question of higher education in Ireland, and he thought he was bound to say that the settlement of the question was to them mainly due. If the Catholic Bishops were listless or indifferent, the question would not have been settled on the lines on which it had been settled. He took that opportunity of expressing his thanks and, he must say, the thanks of the Bishops of Ireland as a body to Mr. Birrell for his strenuous exertions in getting the Bill passed through Parliament.

People We Hear About

The Rev. Henry Sebastian Bowden, who delivered the opening address to the Anglo-Italian Literary Society at Burlington House, was in early manhood an officer in the Army, but for many years past he has been one of the best-known Fathers of the Brompton Oratory. He has filled the office of Superior of the Oratorian Community in South Kensington. He is the author of a work on Dante and another on the religion of Shakespeare, as well as a number of historical and biographical publications.

The Dowager Marchioness of Bute, Gwendoline Mary Anne Fitzalan Howard, is the eldest daughter of the first Lord Howard of Glossop by his first wife, who was the only daughter of the Hon. George Talbot, brother of the Earl of Shrewsbury. In 1872 she married the late Marquis of Bute, the ceremony at the Oratory bringing together an assembly such as perhaps had not till then been seen in a Catholic church since the Reformation. Cardinal Manning officiated, and Mr. Disraeli signed the register, along with a quartet of dukes.

Professor Rutherford, the winner of the Nobel Prize, who was banqueted at Stockholm last week, is a native of New Zealand. He was born in 1871, and after a distinguished career in the New Zealand University he proceeded to Cambridge, where he obtained his M.A. degree in 1893, with first-class honors in mathematics and physics. Obtaining a scholarship in connection with the last exhibition, he prosecuted research in the Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge. In 1898 he was appointed Macdonald Professor of Physics at the McGill University, Canada, and while there made important discoveries in the properties of radio active elements, his publications including *Radio-activity* and *Radio Active Transformations*. In 1904 he delivered the Bakerian lecture before the Royal Society, and last year was appointed to Manchester.

The Rome correspondent of the *Catholic Weekly* tells of a strange adventure which befell the late Cardinal Mathieu, of which he was fond of relating to his friends. He had registered at a well-frequented Paris hotel, where he was unknown, and during his absence an attendant had the curiosity to look in his portmanteau, which was unfastened. There he saw several articles of church plate, a jewelled stole and mitre, and other insignia of the Cardinal's office. Just at that period the depredations of a gang of church robbers was creating much stir in Paris, and the servant persuaded himself that he had made a happy discovery of one of the culprits. He instantly communicated his suspicions to the proprietor, who was already somewhat mystified about his guest. The commissary of police was sent for, and informed that 'a man, clean-shaven, and of mysterious manner, was staying at the hotel, whose baggage was full of church plunder.' That official promptly arrested the Cardinal, despite all his protestations; and it was only when the Prefect of Police, M. Lepine, came upon the scene, that the unfortunate mistake was made clear. Every apology was offered, but the Cardinal took all in good part, and thoroughly enjoyed the humor of the situation.

General Sir William Butler celebrated his seventieth birthday on October 31, and received many congratulations on the occasion. Sir William Butler was born at Suirville, Tipperary. He was educated in Ireland and joined the 69th Regiment in 1858, just half a century ago. The Red River revolt of 1870 gave him the opportunity of showing his daring as a scout, in penetrating to Fort Garry in advance of the Wolseley expedition. He also served in the Ashantee War of 1873, in the Zulu War, and in the Nile Expedition. He was made a Brigadier-General in 1885, and was knighted the following year. In 1890 he became Major-General, and held successive commands at Alexandria, Aldershot, Dover, and South Africa—the last a military office which he made memorable by his efforts to avert a racial war. His warning to the British Government not to underestimate the fighting strength of the Boers was unheeded, with the result that in the early days of the campaign the British troops suffered many defeats. Sir William Butler was married to Miss Elizabeth Thompson, the famous painter of the 'Roll Call,' by Cardinal Manning in 1877. He is the author of several works dealing with his travels in various parts of the world. Of recent years he has done much for religion and education by delivering lectures and presiding at functions in various parts of Ireland.

The stock of straw hats for summer wear, held by the New Zealand Clothing Factory, Octagon, Dunedin, embraces the latest styles and affords the largest choice. They are of all prices from 1s to half a guinea. The stock of gentlemen's felt hats is very select, and is by the leading manufacturers....

H. ISLIP, 104 George St., Dunedin—Direct Importer of all descriptions of First-class Footwear at Prices to suit all classes.

R. HUDSON & Co., Ltd.

—Manufacturers of—

**BISCUITS, CONFECTIONERY,
COCOA AND CHOCOLATE...**

TRY OUR

Chocolate Biscuits, . . .

Rivoli Biscuits

Cream Wafer Biscuits

FOR AFTERNOON TEA

Fletcher, Humphreys & Co

Wine, Spirit and Tea Merchants.

Sole Agents for all leading brands Wine, Whisky, Brandy,
Champagne, etc.

Offices and Bonded Warehouse:

CATHEDRAL SQUARE - CHRISTCHURCH

"Champion" and Webster Agree

OUR friend WEBSTER, in his revised edition, gives the following definitions, which agree with ours; hence our defiant attitude on behalf of the WORKERS during the last SIX YEARS.

TRUST—'An organisation formed mainly for the purpose of regulating the supply and price of commodities, &c., as a sugar, steel, or flour trust.'

COMBINE—'To form a union, to agree, to coalesce, to confederate.'

ASSOCIATION—'Union of persons in a company or society for SOME PARTICULAR PURPOSE; as the American Association for the advancement of science; A BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.'

N.B.—WE ARE IN NO WAY CONNECTED with any of the above concerns; free in every respect, and we intend to remain so, with the WORKERS' assistance.

WORKERS, we are benevolent to a degree. This you know, and we must bashfully admit it, also exponents of the science known as the NOBLE ART when danger is hovering round you, fully verified in our recent tussle with those 'RIGHT AT THE TOP,' and the long combat with the FLOUR TRUST, which naively poses as an association.

But with your valuable assistance, we are STILL 'CHAMPION.'

The only matters that baffle your CHAMPION are advancing wheat markets, caused by droughts and shortages throughout the world, and we crave your indulgence until the laws of Nature have adjusted them.

So kindly rally round your "CHAMPION STANDARD" once more, and the victory is yours.

NORTHERN ROLLER MILLING CO., LIMITED.

P. VIRTUE, Manager.

A1 HOTEL, Corner Cashel and Colombo Streets, CHRISTCHURCH.

P. DEVANE (late of Ashburton),

Having taken possession of the above centrally-situated Hotel, wishes to inform his numerous friends and the public generally that they can rely upon

ALL THE COMFORTS OF A HOME

And the

CONVENIENCES OF A FIRST-CLASS HOTEL.

The Premises are electrically lighted, and furnished with a view to the Comfort of Patrons.

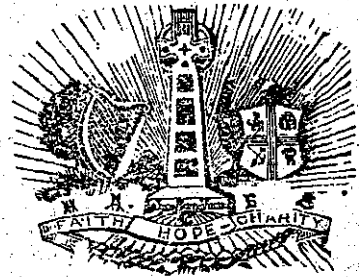
LUNCHEON A SPECIALITY.

12 to 2 o'clock, 1/-

Best Brands Only.

Night Porter.

Telephone 424.



HIBERNIAN-AUSTRALASIAN CATHOLIC BENEFIT SOCIETY

NEW ZEALAND DISTRICT, No. 3.

The Catholic Community is earnestly-requested to support this excellent Organisation, for it inculcates a love of Holy Faith and Patriotism in addition to the unsurpassed benefits and privileges of membership.

The Entrance Fees are from 2s 6d to £4, according to age at time of admission.

Sick Benefits: 20s per week for 26 weeks, 15s per week for the next 13 weeks, and 10s a week for the following 13 weeks. In case of a further continuance of his illness, a member of seven years' standing previous to the commencement of such illness will be allowed 5s per week as superannuation during incapacity.

Funeral Allowance, £20 at the death of a member, and £10 at the death of a member's wife.

In addition to the foregoing, provision is made for the admission of Honorary Members, Reduced Benefit Members, and the establishment of Sisters' Branches and Juvenile Contingents. Full information may be obtained from Local Branch Offices or direct from the District Secretary.

The District Officers are anxious to open New Branches, and will give all possible assistance and information to applicants. Branches being established in the various centres throughout the Colonies, an invaluable measure of reciprocity obtains.

W. KANE,

District Secretary,
Auckland.

The Delight of the Dairyman

The Magic Butter-maker

The ever-ready Churn

THE NATTRASS CHURN

Butter is produced under five minutes in any climate. The Churn is Simple, Easy to Work, Clean and Durable. Its capacity is practically unlimited. Any sizes can be made. Every size will churn from a teacupful of cream.

Write or call for all information.

THE NATTRASS CHURN COMPANY,

39 W. B. STREET, WELLINGTON.

BIRTH, DEATH, AND MARRIAGE

ADVERTISEMENTS - 2s 6d.

IN MEMORIAM NOTICES - 4s per inch

—A LARGE STOCK OF—

MEMORIAM CARDS

On hand. Samples and Quotations sent on application.

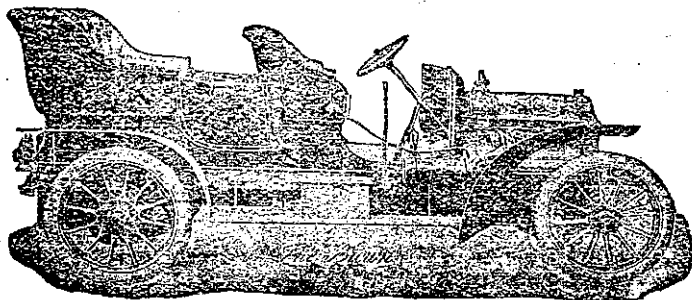
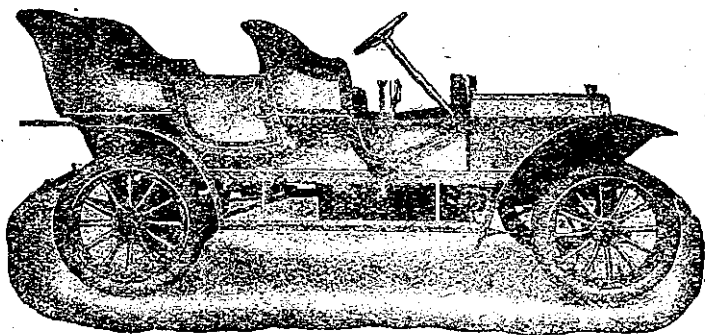
SEND YOUR NEXT PRINTING ORDER

TO

THE N.Z. TABLET PRINTING & PUBLISHING CO
OCTAGON, DUNEDIN.

INTERESTING TO MOTORISTS

The "**VAUXHALL**" Car, Winner of the Silver Cup and Gold Medal in the 2000 Miles and Scottish Reliability Trials. This car put up the best performance of any car in the trials, losing no marks whatever. Price complete with Hood, Screen, Side Lamps, Horn, Pump, Tool Kit, Jack, etc., £530.

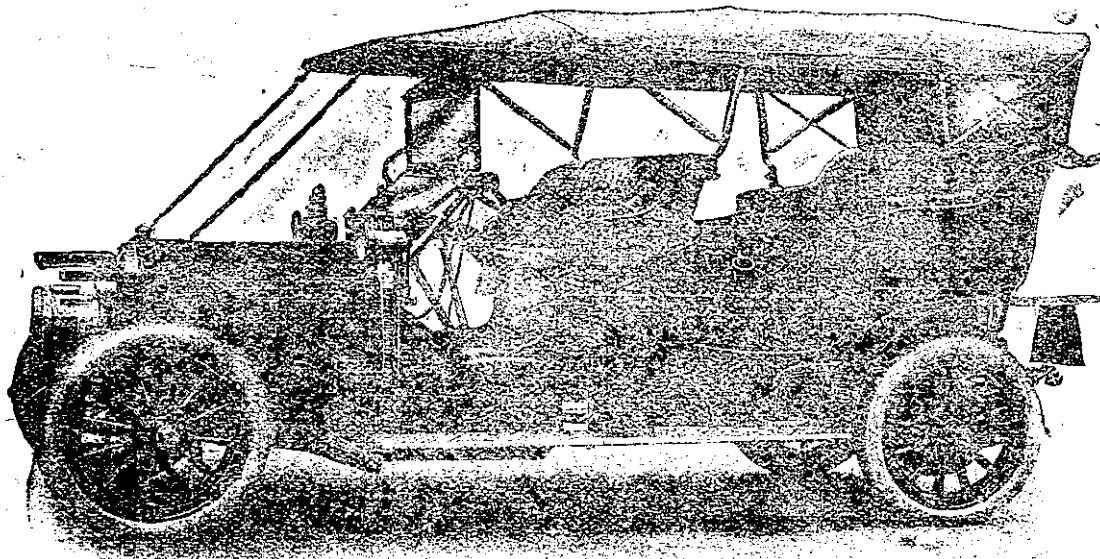
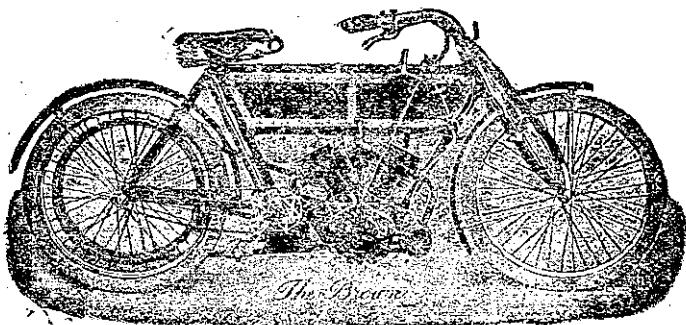


The "**BROWN**" Car Absolutely non stop run in the Scottish Reliability Trials and 2000 miles. Price complete with Hood, Screen, Side Lamps, Pump, Horn, Tool Kit, Jack, etc., £500.

The "**BROWN**" Motor Cycles. If you're a buyer, you want a Winner, put a good rider on a good Motor Bicycle and he will win every time. Why not have the best, especially when it costs no more? The superiority of the "Brown" has been proved.

3½ H.P. Magneto Ignition, £60.

5 H.P. Magneto Ignition, £80.



The famous "**FIAT**" Car, Winner of the World's Championship at Brooklands, 8th June, 1908. The "**FIAT**" again proved itself supreme. Fastest and most Luxurious Car in the World. Price complete with Hood, Screen, Side Lamps, Pump, Jack, Tool Kit, Horn, Tail Lamp, etc., £775.

SCOTT, MORGAN & CO.,

Motor Engineers

49 Manchester Street, Christchurch

Telephone 779

Telegrams "Scomor," Christchurch

P.O. Box 725

The Catholic World

AUSTRIA—An Imperial Gift

One of the most notable, as it is also one of the most valuable, of the gifts to Pope Leo X. on the occasion of his Pontifical Jubilee is that presented by the aged Emperor of Austria as a mark of his homage and affection to the Sovereign Pontiff, and of the devoted attachment which has ever been maintained for centuries past by the Imperial House of Hapsburg towards the vicar of Christ. The souvenir consists of a superb pectoral cross of gold, of beautiful rococo design, and richly ornamented with jewels. The gems, which are of rare lustre, comprise upwards of a hundred fine diamonds and rubies, specially selected, the work having been executed by experienced jewellers under the Emperor's frequent supervision.

ENGLAND—Recalled to Rome

The Very Rev. Father David Fleming, at the close of the leave of absence granted to him by the Holy Father, has been called to Rome to resume his former duties.

FRANCE—Funeral of Cardinal Mathieu

The funeral of Cardinal Mathieu, whose remains were removed from London on October 28, took place at Nancy. The Cardinal-Archbishop of Marseilles and Rheims, the Archbishops of Paris, Besancon, and Toulouse, and a number of Bishops were present at the Requiem Mass in the Cathedral. MM. Barres and Vandal, of the French Academy, attended and several addresses eulogising the deceased, including one by M. Barres, were delivered at the cemetery.

Decrease in Population

Discussing the depopulation of France from the military point of view, M. Messony, Deputy for the Seine Department, in an article just published, calculates that at the present rate of decrease France will in the course of the next fifteen years lose thirty-seven or thirty-eight regiments by the diminution of the male population available for service.

ITALY—For the Foreign Mission Field

Special religious services were held at Turin on Sunday, November 1, on the occasion of the departure of fifty-five Salesian missionaries and twenty nuns for Brazil, Chili, Ecuador, and Colombia. The scenes were very affecting as some of them bade farewell to aged parents whom they will never see again.

ROME—The Sacred College

The death of Cardinal Mathieu and of Cardinal Casanates makes the number of vacancies in the Sacred College fourteen (writes the Rome correspondent of the *Catholic Weekly*). There is naturally much discussion as to how many of these vacant places will be filled and as to who are the prelates likely to be chosen. As I have said before, no reliance whatever is to be placed on statements appearing in the press in this connection. In fact, the date of the next Consistory is not known, and, probably, is not yet even fixed upon. Undoubtedly several new Cardinals—perhaps as many as nine—will be created at that Consistory. There is fair reason for thinking that Archbishop Farley, of New York, and Archbishop Amette, of Paris, will be amongst the number. In English circles here it is confidently asserted that the Archbishop of Westminster or Abbot Gasquet, or both, will be amongst the number.

Private Audience

The Right Rev. Dr. Collins, Bishop-Auxiliary of Hexham and Newcastle, the Right Rev. Dr. Fara, Bishop of S. Carlo di Amed, Chili, and the Right Rev. Dr. Jenihan, Bishop of Auckland, all of whom were present at the Eucharistic Congress, were received in private audience by the Holy Father on October 29.

Reception of the Russian Minister

M. Sozonow, Russian Minister to the Vatican, was received in solemn audience by the Holy Father recently, when he presented his Holiness with an autograph letter from the Czar, conveying hearty jubilee congratulations. The audience is said to have been extremely cordial on both sides.

SOUTH AFRICA—The Eastern District

The other day (writes a Rome correspondent) I had the pleasure of an interview with the Right Rev. Bishop McSherry, Vicar-Apostolic of the Eastern District of the Cape of Good Hope, who is on an *ad limina* visit to Rome. Dr. McSherry intends to remain here for three or four weeks. His Lordship will then go to Ireland, prior to

returning to Port Elizabeth. He desires, he told me, to assist at the jubilee Mass of Pius X., whom he met in Venice, while Patriarch of that See, twelve years ago. 'Pope Pius X. is as vigorous and strong looking,' said Dr. McSherry, 'as Cardinal Sarto was a dozen years ago, when I had the pleasure of meeting him.' Dr. McSherry intends to renew the acquaintance in a few days, when he will be received in private audience by his Holiness. I learned from the Bishop, who was present at the Eucharistic Congress, that he was much struck by the change which has taken place in the attitude of the bulk of the English people towards the Catholic Church. 'It is,' said he, 'a most welcome change, and affords great promise for the future. The people are now respectful towards the representatives of the Catholic Church and ready to hear what they have got to say. That, I need hardly tell you, is an advantage by which we should profit immensely.' Bishop McSherry has under his jurisdiction about fifty priests, between three and four hundred nuns in twenty convents. His Vicariate is very extensive, covering an area of no less than one hundred thousand square miles. The climate is the finest in the world. Notwithstanding the terrible business depression which is acutely felt in South Africa, the outlook for the Church is bright, but great difficulties are encountered by the clergy, the Catholics being isolated and scattered over such a large area, and funds from outside will be wanted till the times become better.

UNITED STATES—Catholic Indians

According to the report of the Bureau of Indian Missions for 1907, there are 51,107 Catholic Indians in the United States. They are ministered to by 134 priests in 90 missions.

The Little Sisters of the Poor

There are at present in the United States some 630 Little Sisters of the Poor. They minister to the needs of over 9000 poor and aged men and women. In all, 49 homes are in charge of these devoted servants of the aged and homeless poor. 'No words (says a writer in the *Rosary*) can do justice to the value of the work—oftentimes intolerably repugnant, if viewed in the light of mere philanthropy—which these servants of the Master have performed in this half-century of their American existence. Their lives are veiled from the world—hidden in Christ, to Whom alone they look for their reward. Those who have come in contact with the Little Sisters and their heroic work will enter full-heartedly with them into the joy of the semi-centennial.'

A Venerable Priest

Canon Jeremiah C. Moynihan, the oldest priest in Chicago, probably in the world, died on October 13. The venerable priest was born on May 3, 1808, in Kanturk, County Cork, Ireland. For over seventy years he lived in the United States, engaged in his priestly labors. Four years ago he retired, but until two years ago he celebrated his daily Mass.

GENERAL

Catholic Missions in Africa

Some idea of Catholic activity in the field of foreign missions may be gleaned from the statement printed in the *African Almanac* for 1909, prepared by the Fathers of the Holy Ghost, that at present there are no fewer than 25 religious Orders and Congregations engaged in winning Africa to Christianity, with 2574 secular priests and religious of both sexes, while the continent is divided into 71 vicariates and prefectures apostolic.

A Grand Duchess Enters a Convent

The widowed Grand Duchess Sergius (Princess Elizabeth of Hesse-Darmstadt, and niece of King Edward) has entered the Convent of the 'Blue Nuns' at Moscow, a community (writes a correspondent) which numbers among its inmates the members of not a few families sufficiently distinguished to be enrolled in the 'Velvet Book,' the Russian 'Burke.' The Grand Duchess Elizabeth Feodorovna (such is her Russian title) is forty-four, and married the ill-fated Grand Duke Sergius in 1884, when she was twenty.

HOW TO PAINT A HOUSE CHEAP

Carrara Paint White and Colors. Mixed Ready for Inside and Outside Use. CARRARA retains its Gloss and Lustre for at least five years, and will look better in eight years than lead and oil paints do in two. USE CARRARA, the first cost of which is no greater than lead and oil paints, and your paint bills will be reduced by over 50 per cent. A beautifully-illustrated booklet, entitled 'How to Paint a House Cheap,' will be forwarded free on application.

THE DRESDEN PIANOS.

MODERATE IN PRICE, THOROUGH IN CONSTRUCTION,
UNRIVALLED IN TONE, ARTISTIC IN DESIGN.

STEINWAY	FO' ISCH	FO' IM
STEINWAY	RONISCH	BOHM
BROADWOOD	LIPP AND SON	
BROADWOOD	LIPP AND SON	

THE WORLD'S STANDARD PIANOS.

Any Instrument may be obtained on Easy Terms to
suit the convenience of intending purchaser.

Town or Country.

Designs, Prices, and Terms Free on Application

THE DRESDEN LIMITED Princes Street,
Dunedin

J. A. X. RIEDLE, Manager.

USE ONLY

Royal Worcestershire Sauce

Purity and Quality Unsurpassed. Once Used, Always Used.

A. McNAUGHTON & CO. MANUFACTURERS,
MAITLAND STREET, DUNEDIN.

F. H. STEEL BUTCHER.



The Leading Establishment of its kind in Christchurch. Nothing but absolutely the Best Meat the country produces kept. Small Goods a Speciality. The Annual Output reaches nearly Half a Million Pounds. The quantity sold speaks for itself. Customers in City and Suburbs Waited on Daily for Orders. Country Customers can always rely on letters and telegrams being promptly attended to.
178 & 180 COLOMBO ST., CHRISTCHURCH.

ZEALANDIA TENNIS SHIRTS

are the pink of form.

A CHAMPION SAYS—

ZEALANDIA TENNIS SHIRTS

Have enhanced my reputation more than my play is ever likely to do.
People say I always

LOOK SMART.

That settles it!

MACALISTER AND CO (J. J. HISKENS), CHEMISTS, INVERCARGILL.

A Complete Stock of Everything that is
looked for in a first-class Pharmacy

SPECIALTY:
Dispensing of Physicians' Prescriptions and
Supply of Nurses Requisites.

P.O. Box 120, Telephone 90
INVERCARGILL.

- CITY PRIVATE HOTEL -

(Late Kett's Hibernian Hotel)

Dee Street, Invercargill

Tariff: 4/6 to 6/6 Per Day.

With Private and Public Dining Rooms
The Hotel is situated within Two Minutes
walk of Railway Station, P.O. and Theatres

Proprietor: J. W. Deegan

(Late of Drummond and Oriti)

BOTTLED ALE & STOUT.

SPEIGHT'S CELEBRATED PRIZE ALES & STOUTS.

BOTTLED BY

Messrs. Powley & Keast
HOPE STREET,
DUNEDIN.

Bottlers, Wine & Spirit Merchants.

Country Orders punctually attended to.
Order through Telephone 979.

Sole Agents in Dunedin for A. B. Mackay
'Liqueur' Whisky.

Agents for Auldana Wines (S.A.).
Corks, Tinfoil, Wire, Syphons, and all
Bottlers' Requisites in Stock.

E. R.
CASSIDY AND CO.
TELEGRAPH LINE OF ROYAL MAIL
COACHES.
LEAVE BROKEN RIVER on arrival
of West Coast Express every
TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and SAT-
URDAY, carrying mails and passen-
gers for Otago, Kumara, Hokitika,
Greymouth, Reefton, and Westport.
ARRIVING GREYMOUTH SAME DAY.
Passengers can obtain through Tickets at
Railway Station.
WARNER'S HOTEL LTD.,
Christchurch Agents.
CASSIDY AND CO., Proprietors.

ESTABLISHED 1880, TELEPHONE O. 69
BAKER BROTHERS,
FURNISHING UNDERTAKERS,
ASHBURTON.

Direct Importers of Best and Latest
Designs in Funeral Furnishings.
FUNERALS Conducted with the great-
est Care and Satisfaction, at the most
Reasonable Charges.
Corner of Wakarua Road and Cass
streets, and Baker and Brown's Coach
Factory.

Santa Claus

Of all Christmas customs the best known is also the most recent. Santa Claus is a modern improvement.. Saint Nicholas, it is not to be denied, is a fairly hoary figure and he has long been known as the patron saint of children. Just why is not clear. Practically nothing is known about the good saint except that he died Archbishop of Myra in the fourth century. There are one or two legends connecting him with a love and a compassion for young people, but there are also legends which cause him to be associated with sailors. He is also claimed as a patron by brigands, on account of an adventure which he is said to have had with a band of freebooters. Lastly, he is claimed by the profession of pawn brokers, and it is a fact that he is usually represented in mediaeval art with three golden balls in one outstretched hand.

A century or so ago it was the custom in Germany for all the parents in a town or village to send the presents they designed for their children to one chosen individual, who called at each house clad in a motley robe, a mask, and a huge flaxen wig. Knocking on the door, he called in a loud voice for all the good children to appear and receive the gifts which the Christ-child, the Christ-Kindlein, had sent them. This was the primeval Kris Kringle. Coleridge describes this custom, and records that the bad children had a rod left for their correction.

This is a sophisticated age. Very little credulity of a poetic kind remains in us. But the instinct to make merry and throw aside the cares of everyday life is still in us, and until that is gone Christmas will remain. By and by it may come to mean that all the world shall be made glad, not only for a day, but for the entire year of days.

The glories of Christmas half a century ago would no doubt seem poor and cheap to this generation, for life was simple, and devoid of show and glitter. The exchange of costly gifts was not so common as in this generation.

Legends of the Mistletoe

The custom of decorating homes with greenery comes to us direct from our pagan ancestors. Celtic or Teuton, who held their mid-winter festivities at the end of December. The holly and ivy were favored by the Saxons, and St. Augustine allowed his converts to retain the green garlands when the heathen feast of Yule became the holy feast of Christmas.

The mistletoe of the oak was held sacred by the Druids of Ireland. This white-berried plant was regarded as an evil thing by the ancient Norsemen, and the Scandinavian legend of the wicked mistletoe is told in the Norse mythology. The day-god of the Norsemen was called Baldur the Good, and he was beloved by gods and men. Baldur was tormented with dreams threatening him, and, according to the legend, his mother, Freya, resolved to take an oath of all animated things that they would not harm her son. She obtained assent from all save the mistletoe, which she deemed too insignificant to be feared. Her spell worked well. Baldur, though often put to the test, remained invulnerable. There was an evil power called Loki, who often sought to mar the happiness of the gods. He saw with jealous eye their sport, as each in turn hurled missiles at Baldur, and he resolved to find out the secret. So, changing himself into the form of a fair maiden, he hastened to Freya and related what he had seen. The goddess told him the secret of the matter.

'What!' exclaimed Loki, 'have all things sworn to spare Baldur?'

'All plants save one little plant called mistletoe,' she replied. 'I thought that too young and feeble to crave an oath from it.'

Then Loki flew joyfully away to the spot where the parasite grew. Returning, he resumed his own form to the gods. Observing one who was blind standing by himself, he asked, 'Why dost not thou throw something at Baldur?' 'Because,' said the god, 'I am blind and have nothing to throw.'

Loki placed the mistletoe in his hand, saying, 'I will direct thy arm.' Under the guidance of the evil god the plant was thrown. It pierced Baldur, and he fell down dead.

In ancient Ireland the Druid priests cut the mistletoe once a year with a golden sickle, and received the branches solemnly on white cloths. Then, of course, good luck for the year to come was assured, and witches—who were especially afraid of the mistletoe—didn't dare to show their ugly faces in any house guarded by a bit of the mystic plant.

A list of winners in the twelfth half-yearly Kozie Tea Cash Distribution appears elsewhere in this issue...

Take a half-holiday. Do not work on wash day. Lily Washing Tablets will do your washing in one-third the usual time. No rubbing, no drudgery; washing just a PLEASURE. Housewives of many years' standing emphatically endorse these

Domestic

By MAUREEN

To Soften Hard Water.

Rain water is the best for toilet purposes, but if this is unattainable use oatmeal to soften hard water. Make a small bag of coarse muslin, put half a teacupful of oatmeal into it, and tie the opening tightly round, but let the oatmeal lie loosely in the bag. Put this into a gallon of cold water, and let it soak for some hours before using.

Scorched Linen.

To restore scorched linen get two onions, peel and slice them, and extract the juice by squeezing or pounding. Cut up half an ounce of white soap, and add two ounces of fuller's earth; mix them with the onion juice and half a pint of vinegar. Boil this composition well, and spread it when cool over the scorched part of the linen, leaving it to dry thoroughly, and afterwards wash out the linen.

Renovating Ribbons.

Every neat woman appreciates the good effect of occasionally freshening up ribbons, velvets, feathers, and the smaller accessories of the toilet of the well-dressed. A simple way of renovating these things is to pass them over the top of a saucepan in the steam of clean boiling water. Ribbons, lace, crepe, etc., treated in this way become as fresh and crisp as when new. Feathers shaken in the steam, and then shaken in front of a fire to dry, will be as full and fluffy as when first bought.

To Clean Marble Washstands.

When marble tops of tables or washstands have become unsightly from marks made by the various bottles and requisites placed upon them, take two ounces of washing soda, one ounce of powdered pumice stone, and one ounce of powdered chalk. Pound together, and then pass through a sieve. Take some of the powder and make it into a paste with cold water; rub it well over the surface of the marble, and when all stains are removed wash well with soap and water, and the result will repay the labor expended.

Kitchen Hints.

Remove all black and grease from the outside of pans, as well as wash the inside, otherwise there is much loose soot to come off on hands and apron; also as the heat cannot penetrate so easily, time and fuel are wasted.

Remove all scraps from plates and dishes before placing them in water. Rub the worst of the grease off pans and dishes with some soft paper. This does afterwards for lighting fires, and the water used for washing does not become so hopelessly greasy or need changing so often. Wash all silver first. Stand the knives upright in a jug of warm soda water, so that the handles are not in the water, as this discolors and loosens them. Do not put the blades in very hot water, for the expansion of the steel will cause handles to crack.

Enamel and aluminium pans must never be washed with soda. A little salt or fine ash is better than sand to scour these with, as the grains of sand are sharp and scratch the surface.

Re-cooked Meat.

Meat, though a common, is also a costly, item, and quickly mounts up the household expenditure. Therefore it is necessary that it should be used to the greatest advantage. It is impossible to avoid having cold meat, which, in order to make variety, must be re-cooked. Many object to this kind of meat on account of its indigestibility and lack of nutriment, but these faults are usually the result of unskilful treatment. It is important to remember that twice-cooked meat loses some of its flavor and nutriment; therefore it must be very carefully seasoned, and whatever gravy or sauce is served with it should be made from the bones and rough pieces of the joint, so as to obtain all possible nourishment. These should be strained out of the gravy before the meat is put in. Meat placed in cold gravy or stock will have what little nourishment is left in drawn out, with the result that the meat will be tasteless; therefore meat that is to be re-warmed should be put into hot, but not boiling, liquid, because, if boiling, the meat will at once become hardened and tough. The most important rule of all, and the one most generally forgotten, is that re-cooked meat should be allowed to heat thoroughly, but never be allowed to simmer. It is owing to neglect of this rule that twice-cooked meat is so distasteful to many, and justly considered indigestible.

Maureen

LILY WASHING TABLETS

statements. Total cost of wash for family of ten, twopence.—J. HARRISON, Manufacturer, 184 Kilmore street, Christchurch.

Royal Hotel - Greymouth

Next Railway Station

Patrons can depend upon being called to catch early trains, a Special Porter being kept for that purpose.

FORTY LARGE COMMODIOUS ROOMS

Tariff: 6/- a day

F. M. DREWITT, Proprietor

Late of Central Otago

PATERSON & BURK

(W. J. BURK)

Venetian and Holland Blind Works.

Old Blinds Repainted and Repaired with promptness and despatch, equal to new. Shop and Office Windows Fitted with latest and Improved Patterns of Holland Blinds and Patent Spring Rollers. A Large Assortment of Specially-prepared Tapes and Cords and every other requisite always on hand.

MORAY PLACE

(Opposite Normal School),

Telephone, 474.

DUNEDIN.

"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.

"SPRING BLOSSOM OINTMENT" cures Eczema, Scaly Blisters on the Skin, and Skin Affections generally.

"SPRING BLOSSOM OINTMENT" cures Cancerous Sores, Boils, Burns, Scalds, Ringworm, Cuts, Bruises, Sprains, and all Glandular Swellings.

"SPRING BLOSSOM OINTMENT" cures Ulcerated Legs caused by Varicocoele Veins, Tender and Sweaty Feet, and Running Sores.

"SPRING BLOSSOM OINTMENT" cures Sciatica, Lumbago, Rheumatism, Mumps, Sore Throat, Pains in the Chest and Side.

"SPRING BLOSSOM OINTMENT" cures Itching, Clears the Skin and Scalp, Cures Dandruff & Beautifies the Complexion.

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

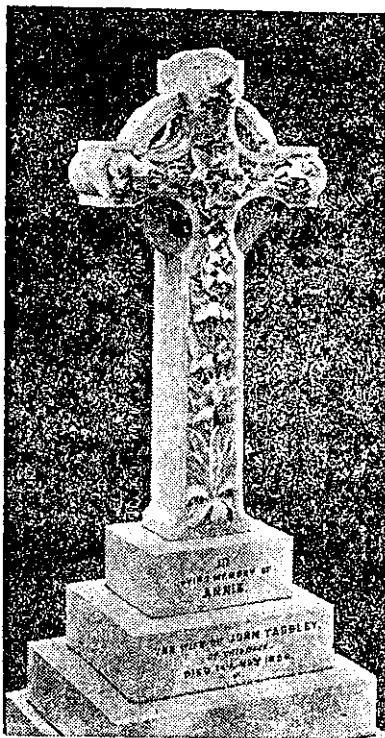
"BOLOMINE," the great Corn, Wart & Bunion Cure. Price 6d—everywhere

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

J. B. Mansfield & Sons

CHRISTCHURCH and ASHBURTON

MONUMENTAL WORKS.



Principal Yard and Office, Manchester Street, near Railway Station.

The Largest and best Stock in the Colony.

No Travellers and no Commission men

"All who would achieve success should endeavour to merit it."

WE have during the past year spared no expense in endeavouring to make our Beer second to none in New Zealand, and can now confidently assert we have succeeded in doing so.

We invite all who enjoy A Good Glass of Beer to ask for **STAPLES BEST**

On Draught at almost all Hotels in the City and surrounding districts

And confidently anticipate their verdict will be that **STAPLES AND CO.** have successfully removed the reproach that Good Beer could not be brewed in Wellington.

J. STAPLES AND CO., Limited
MOLESWORTH and MURPHY STREETS
WELLINGTON

SPRING AND SUMMER SHOW

— 36 George Street—

H. E. BEVERIDGE

Is now showing some choice goods for the bright weather. Millinery unsurpassed for style and price. Latest designs in dress materials, summer silks, delaines, bordered robes, boues, costume and coats. Dress-making under capable management.

PURIRI NATURAL MINERAL WATER.**FOR RHEUMATISM, INDIGESTION ETC.**

At all Clubs, the Leading Hotels, and on board the U.S.S. Co.'s Steamers.

PURIRI NATURAL MINERAL WATER

Combine Economy, Perfect Fit and Satisfaction by ordering your next suit

.....From.....

- J. A. O'BRIEN

The Leading Tailor

45 Dowling Street

One Trial will mean Permanent Orders
Clerical Trade a Specialty

ECZEMA.

"NOAH'S DOVE" OINTMENT
(Patented by R. White of Auckland).

For the cure of Eczema and Ringworm
And Kindred Diseases of the Skin

HAS effected MARVELLOUS Cures of the most STUBBORN and LONG-STANDING cases which have baffled the MEDICAL PROFESSION and PATENT MEDICINES.

PRICE—3s. 6d. per tin; all chemists and storekeepers.

Following is one of the many glowing Testimonials we are constantly receiving:—
"Otahuhu, Auckland, 15th April, 1908.—
TESTIMONIAL TO THE WONDERFUL CURE OF "NOAH'S DOVE" OINTMENT—I had suffered from Eczema for 14 years. I was twice in the Auckland Hospital. It is now over two years since I left that institution, as I found they were doing me no good. I tried all kinds of ointments, lotions, and blood mixtures, all to no use. The pain was most cruel, and I often wished to God that I was dead. The day 'Noah's Dove Ointment' was brought to the door, I was on crutches; I could not put my legs to the ground. I laughed at them when they said it would cure me. I told the gentleman I had tried too many ointments, and I would try no more, as I had given up all hopes of ever getting well; but my husband would have me try one tin—it was on a Tuesday—and at the end of a week I was able to go about without a stick; and although it took several tins to complete the cure, it is now over 12 months since, and no sign of it coming back.—I am, thankfully yours, (Signed) J. MURPHY.—To R. White, Esq., Auckland." C877

Sole Distributing Agent for Wellington
J. J. CRONIN, Victoria St., Wellington.

List of Winners in the Twelfth Half-yearly Kozie Tea Cash Distribution

DECEMBER 7, 1908:—

ST. COLUMBKILLE CONVENT, Hokitika, £5,

Miss E. BROOK, Milton, £5

Mrs. E. A. VEITCH, Waimate, £3

Mrs. E. ADAMSON, Greymouth, £3

Mrs. T. DAVIES, Barrytown, £2

Mrs. B. FLANNERY, Ophir, £2

Miss A. RYAN, Westport, £2

Miss F. T., Greymouth, £1

Mrs. T. T. JONES, Kumara, £1

Mrs. M. STEPHENSON, St. Andrews, £1

And 10s to each of the following:—

Miss H. I. ADAMS, Lovell's Flat

Mrs. RIOSALE Otiira

Mrs. F. H. SMITH, Greymouth

Mrs. F. THORN, Kumara

Mrs. J. CURRIE, Maungatua

Miss K. McKenzie, Tinwald

Mrs. M. A. CHIMMIN, Moana

Mrs. K. LISTER, Gisborne

Mrs. J. WAFER, Barrytown

Mrs. J. ADAMS, Greymouth

Mrs. J. FASS, Greymouth

Miss MONIGATTI, Westport

Mrs. E. GRAMMOND, Ashburton

Miss I. MORRIS, Albert Town

Mrs. J. CARBIS, Waimate

Mrs. J. CAMPBELL, Wellington

And 36 Cash Bonuses of 5s. each.

Intercolonial

During the past few months the Ballarat diocese has lost by death no less than four priests—viz., Father Guiloyle, Father McAuley, Father Lynch, and Father Ferris.

According to the statistical abstract for the quarter ending 30th September, the population of Victoria on that date was 1,269,060, of whom 637,356 were males and 631,704 females.

Mr. George Halpin, who has been re-elected president of the Geelong branch of the Catholic Young Men's Society, has had a unique record in connection with the society, having occupied office continuously since 1889.

Dulwich Hill, in the archdiocese of Sydney, has been created a new parish, and takes in portion of the Lewisham, Marrickville, and Canterbury parishes (says the *Catholic Press*). The Rev. Father William Hayden has been appointed first pastor. His charge at Albion Park has been transferred to the Rev. Father Peter Power, whose place at Gosford will be taken by the Rev. Father John Egan, who administered Mount Carmel during the absence of Father Collins in Ireland.

The recent ordinations at Manly (says the *Advocate*), when eleven young Australians were ordained by his Eminence Cardinal Moran, prove that the missionary vocation is gaining ground in Australia. One of the students, Rev. M. O'Connor, went to be ordained at Sale by the Bishop of the diocese, thus completing the number of the original apostolic college, twelve. As many as twenty-four priests with the Cardinal imposed hands on the candidates. Despite his advanced age, eighty, his Eminence showed no fatigue throughout the long ceremony.

The cost of the maintenance of the 108 Catholic primary schools of the archdiocese of Melbourne for the year ended September 30, was £24,840. Two new schools were built during the year at a cost of over £1600. On substantial alterations, repairs, and furniture a sum of £1976 was spent. The total outlay for the year on maintenance, alterations, repairs, and new buildings was £28,425. The total number of children attending the schools during the year was 20,660. The number of teachers (exclusive of 30 visiting) was 424, of whom 251 were members of religious Orders.

The Hon. John Meagher, in a speech at the opening of the Christian Brothers' Novitiate, Strathfield, said he knew some ex-students of well Catholic colleges and convents who would not carry a Catholic paper without first taking off the cover lest their Protestant friends might see a Catholic paper in their hands. Children brought up in such schools—girls as well as boys—swelled the ranks of weak Catholics, the Friday meat-eating Catholics, and were no good for God or man. They were not educated at all, for their characters were not formed, and the highest type of character in man or woman was the true Catholic character, which did not attempt to compromise between truth and error.

Rev. Mother Mary Xavier Dooley, of the Presentation Convent, Launceston, recently celebrated her silver jubilee as a religious. Her friends and pupils gathered around and honored her enthusiastically. A combined entertainment was given in her honor by the different city schools and some of her admirers. It was a striking demonstration. An address was presented by the friends and pupils, past and present, of the Launceston and outlying convent schools, also a purse of sovereigns. Monsignor Beechinor, who presided, replied eloquently on Mother Xavier's behalf. In return, the Rev. Mother and Sisters gave a social evening to the members of the jubilee committee and their friends.

Major the Hon. J. V. O'Loughlin, V.D., who has just been awarded the Colonial Auxiliary Forces' officers' long-service decoration, V.D., has had 25 years' service in the military forces of the State (says the *Adelaide Southern Cross*). Seven years he served in the ranks, private, corporal, and sergeant. In 1890 he received his first commission as Lieutenant in the Militia, and has worked up to his present rank of Major, for which he passed his theoretical and practical examination in 1903. He was instrumental in raising and commanded the Irish Corps till the end of last year. Major O'Loughlin has risen from the bottom to the head of the military forces, having been Minister of Defence for four years. He holds a commission signed by himself in that capacity.

Our readers in Canterbury who contemplate making Christmas presents should not miss seeing the novel and varied stock of gifts on exhibition at Messrs. W. Strange and Co.'s, High street, Christchurch....

Science Siftings

BY 'VOLT'

Purifying Salt.

Salt is purified by melting in the new and rapid English process. The crude rock salt is fed automatically to a table contained in a large furnace, is then fused and runs into troughs, from which it is drawn at one side of the furnace into large caldrons. Air is forced into the molten mass, and lime is added. The impurities sink to the bottom, and the upper portion is ground and screened, while the lower part is used for chemical manure.

Heating and Cooling Cast Iron.

The increase of volume from the heating and cooling of cast iron has been the subject of many tests, and it has been shown that the swelling may amount to as much as forty per cent. After heating in a gas furnace twenty-seven times, the highest temperature reached being 1450deg. F., a bar originally one inch square and 14.8 inches long was found to have grown to one and one-eighth inch square and sixteen and one-half inches long. This effect is suggested as an explanation of the trouble given by cast-iron fittings for superheated steam, which produces the same alternative heating and cooling.

The Cape Elk.

Among the rapidly disappearing wild animals is the eland, or Cape elk, which is a native of South Africa and one of the largest of the antelopes, and is especially prized as furnishing the best of all venison. Schemes for preservation include a plan for domesticating it and making it perform an important share of the farm work of Cape Colony. The beast is easily captured, thrives under the new conditions, and in an experiment in the McCheoke district of Mashonaland two eland spans were used for a considerable time for drawing waggons, proving docile and tractable. Healthy calves were born in captivity. The animal seems to be proof against the common diseases of farm stock, and its flesh is desirable for beef and its hide for leather.

The Katipo.

To the katipo belongs the remarkable distinction of being the only venomous creature in the whole scheme of animal life in New Zealand. Professor Drummond, the well-known naturalist, of Auckland, likens it to the ferocious pirate of olden days amongst companies of peaceful traders, for the katipo bites, and his bite is always poisonous and often deadly. It is generally followed by great pain, lassitude, and nervous depression. In the case of a stout, strong man bitten near Auckland some years ago the poison, when it became absorbed in the circulation, affected the heart, brain, and nervous system, almost causing a faint. Maoris state that large numbers of their children have succumbed to the effects of the bite. A European boy, who was bitten at Maketu, in the Bay of Plenty, was ill for three months before he rallied, and three more months passed before he recovered; and a Maori girl, bitten at Waihi, near the same place, died after six weeks' suffering. Nature appears to have been in a capricious mood when she evolved the katipo, for he is an extremely handsome entity. His body is jet-black, with the appearance of highly-burnished velvet, while from the head to the other extremity runs a series of geometrically accurate diamond-shaped patches of a vivid light red. This, however, is only when the katipo reaches maturity. In infancy he is white, with insignificant black spots and only a suggestion of red in the shape of a blurred line. In adolescence he becomes yellowish, and the black spots and the kind of red become more defined. In the next stage there is the burnished black body and the red diamonds, but the latter have a fringe of yellow. In the adult the yellow fringe disappears. And at this point comes a disillusionment, for Professor Drummond now reveals the fact that the katipo, after all, is merely a spider—a spider whose body is no larger than a pea, and whose legs, fully extended, measure but three-quarters of an inch across. Small though he is, however, the katipo is heartily dreaded by those who know him and his wickedness. Unfortunately, there are many who do not know him, and who, with that queer feeling—perhaps not quite superstitious, but very near it—of reluctance to kill a spider, go so far as to let the insect crawl over their hands as a 'luck-bringer'. To this delusion, too, the katipo's unusual beauty lends dangerous color.

WANTED KNOWN—That Bill-heads, Circulars, Cards, Programmes, and General Printing of every description are executed at the *Tablet* Office. Moderate rates.

DEAR ME!

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

FOR THE BEST IN DENTISTRY GO TO THE

Painless Filling 5s.
Absolutely Painless
Extractions 2/6
Sets £2 2 0



Remember—The entrance to our offices is in Boulcott street opposite Dr. Hildrop's. Ask for the Principal, Mr. de Lantour, who has no other offices in N.Z. but gives his undivided attention to Wellington.

Corner of WILLIS
and BOULCOTT Sts

AMERICAN DENTAL PARLORS

WELLINGTON
WELLINGTON

There's no place like Strange's for Novel Xmas & New Year Gifts

<p>"PETER PAN" BAGS Plain and Fancy At 2/6, 3/6, 4/6, 5/6, 6/6</p>	<p>THOUSANDS OF PURSES Electro-plated and Sterling Silver-mounted From 3/6 to 30/-</p>	<p>STERLING SILVER- MOUNTED PHOTO FRAMES A Great Variety of the Newest Designs, from 4/6 to 30/-</p>	<p>SHAVING MIRRORS At 10/6 to 25/-, Also Shaving Paper Cases At 1/- to 4/6.</p>
<p>"PEGGY" BAGS Plain and filled in Morocco, Seal, Crushed Seal, Crocodile, Walrus, Puma, &c. From 1/9 to 60/-</p>	<p>FIRE SCREENS Cardboard 1/-, 2/-; Japanese 3/9 to 6/9; Silk, 14/6 to 22/6; Oak (picture panels) 19/6 to 45/-</p>	<p>FOLDING GLOVE AND HANDKERCHIEF CASES From 4/6 to 20/-</p>	<p>HANDKERCHIEF SACHETS From 2/6 to 15/-</p>

W. STRANGE & CO., LIMITED, CHRISTCHURCH.

The Largest Equerry



in New Zealand.

R I N K S T A B L E S

GLOUCESTER AND ARMAGH STREETS,
CHRISTCHURCH.

W. HAYWARD & Co. Proprietors.

We can supply every reasonable enquiry.

CYCLERY.—The latest convenience of the age. Bicycles Stored
in Patent Stall, 3d per day.

R I N K S T A B L E S

MORAY PLACE, DUNEDIN.

PERRIAM and MOUNTNEY - Proprietors.

Drags, Landaus, Waggonettes, Dog Carts, and Vehicles of every description. Reliable Saddle Horses always on Hire. Carriages for Wedding Parties. Horses broken to Single and Double Harness, also to Saddle. Ladies' divided skirts kept for hire.

TELEPHONE No. 827.

Grain! Grain! Grain! Chaff! Potatoes! etc. SEASON 1908.

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 Galuntia 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.

Sample Bags, Advice Notes, and Labels sent on Application.

DONALD REID & CO. LTD.

CLEAN YOUR KNIVES EASILY

COMPLETE OUTFIT, 1/-
(Post Free.)

The "Wizard" Knife Cleaner is the quickest, easiest, most thorough knife cleaner that you could use. It is composed of two boards, thickly lined, and attached at both sides with strong, heavy felt.

The process of cleaning is most simple. You place the knife between the felts, pressing on the upper board with the left hand, then draw the knife a few times through the felts, when it will come out thoroughly cleansed from stains, and beautifully bright on BOTH SIDES.

The "Wizard" does not soil the hands—cleans 8 knives a minute, and that with very little exertion to yourself. The cost with a tin of polish is just 1/- post free to any address.

Write to-day, instructing us to send you one. It means a big saving of time to you.

EDWARD REECE & SONS
Colombo St., Christchurch.

The Family Circle

A LETTER TO SANTA CLAUS

DEAR SANTA CLAUS:

I never, never knew
That it would be so hard to write to you.
Last week I thought of lots and lots to say
About the toys I want, and games to play;
But now I've got the paper, pen, and ink;
It seems a little selfish, don't you think,
To write about myself? I'd rather start
By telling you what Tom has set his heart
Upon. He said, 'When Christmas day shall come,
I hope I'll get a trumpet and a drum.'
And Jimmy (he's my other brother) said
He'd rather have a train and ball instead,
While Alec wants a horse. But there, I fear
You'll think I'm asking for a lot *this* year,
So, Santa Claus, only one thing I'll beg:
Bring all the world a merry Christmas!

—Meg.

A DEPARTMENT STORE SANTA CLAUS

Christmas was coming. There was no doubt of it in Tim Blake's mind as he beheld the crowd of shoppers which filled the sidewalks, poured through the entrances, and clustered round the windows of the big uptown stores.

'Yes, Christmas is coming,' muttered Tim; 'but it is going to be a mighty poor Christmas for me unless something turns up.'

Poor Tim Blake had good reason for thinking as he did. He was verily a stranger in a strange land, without a home, without work, without even a cent in his pocket. Somewhere in the city were Tim's wife and child, and though he had sought them anxiously, they still remained unfound. Tim was a carpenter by trade, and back in the quiet Maine town, whence he had come, he had owned a humble shop, over which he lived with his wife and little Joey.

A few months before Joey had taken sick. 'He won't live through the winter,' said old Doctor Gordon, 'unless you can get him to a warmer climate.'

Tim did the only thing he could do under the circumstances; sold his shop and the cozy little home, and put mother and child aboard the train bound for Los Angeles while he remained to settle affairs. After the doctor's bills had been paid and a tourist ticket purchased for himself Tim found he had only a few dollars left. The business that required his attention delayed him longer than he had expected, and it was not until the early part of December that he arrived in Southern California. He immediately started out to seek his little family, but on inquiring at the address where they had been stopping he found they had gone no one knew whither. Tim had spent his last few dollars in trying to locate them, but without success.

'Guess I'm at the end of my rope,' Tim spoke dolefully, as he remembered that he had eaten nothing since the previous noon.

He walked aimlessly down the street through the jostling crowd, until he found himself before a newspaper office on Broadway. Spread out on the bulletin board was a copy of the morning edition, and Tim glanced over its columns to see if there could be any mention of those he sought. Page after page he perused, and was about to turn away with saddened heart when his eye lighted on this advertisement:

'Wanted—A short, stout man; must be good-natured and love children.—Apply at 10 o'clock this morning, Manager's office, Burgerham's Department Store.'

Tim walked on absorbed in thought. 'Queer sort of an ad,' he soliloquised. Then he beheld his own reflection in the window of a haberdasher's store, and he took off his hat and scratched his head.

'Well, I'm short and stout,' he said aloud to his reflection, 'but not very good-natured at present.' Pulling his old silver timepiece from his pocket, he found it lacked a few minutes of 10 o'clock. His empty stomach helped him to arrive at a quick decision, and he was soon at the big department store inquiring for the manager's office.

Tim was directed to take the elevator to the top floor, and there found he had been preceded by a dozen other men. Some of them were evidently short enough, but lacked the required avoirdupois, while others were stout, but inclined to tallness. One of the number seemed about the right weight and height, but his face was any-

thing but good-natured. The manager surveyed the waiting men and seemed pleased with Tim's appearance, for he picked him out of the crowd and dismissed the others.

'You'll do,' he said, briskly. 'Do you think you will make a good Santa Claus?' Tim's face expressed amazement. 'I don't believe I understand.'

'Oh, it's easy,' explained the manager, in a business-like tone. 'You see, every year during the Christmas season we have a Santa Claus for the sake of the youngsters. It amuses them, and proves quite an attraction. All you have to do is to dress the part, and have a pleasant word for the little ones.'

Tim's perplexity began to clear away, and when the manager asked if he was ready to accept the responsibility of being Santa Claus, he gladly agreed to the proposal. An hour later there was quite a stir in front of Burgerham's big store. A short, stout man with rosy cheeks, flowing white beard, and bright costume trimmed with fur appeared among the shoppers.

'Goody, goody!' cried the children, clapping their hands and crowding around him, while fond mothers looked on and smiled indulgently. Tim Blake as Santa Claus was a decided success from the very start.

The manager realised that he had not made a mistake in his selection of a Santa Claus. 'He's the best one we ever had,' he exclaimed again and again to the members of the firm. 'He's a regular genius. Just watch him hugging and kissing all those youngsters. When Christmas is over I intend to keep him on the pay-roll. He tells me he's a carpenter by trade, and we have plenty of that kind of work for him to do, and if he remains we will have him for other Christmases,' and the manager gleefully rubbed his hands.

The days passed in quick succession, and Christmas eve was at hand. The manager sat in his office poring over an accumulation of correspondence. They were the letters to Santa from the children, and it was the manager's custom each Christmas eve to read them over and enjoy many a quiet smile at the childish requests. His mood changed after he picked up one of the notes and made out its contents, for as he glanced it over he read:

'Dear Santy Claus,
im a littel sick boy up hear in the childerns horspital
an i cant eun to see you becaws i am in bed and cant
walk. their are lots of other kids hear just like me an
they want you to fetch em some toys fer krismuss but i
dont want enny toys if you only bring my daddy.

JOEY.

A tear fell on the grimy scrap of paper, and the manager was sniffing suspiciously. 'Poor little tike,' he cried, 'I can't find his daddy for him, but if I can make him and the other youngsters happy I am going to do it.'

Scribbling a short note, he pressed a button, and a boy in uniform appeared at the door. The manager wheeled in his chair. 'Give this note to the head of the Toy Department,' he said, 'and then send the Santa Claus man to me.'

When Tim arrived garbed in his quaint costume he found the manager pacing the floor. 'I want you to go to the Children's Hospital,' he ordered, 'and distribute a lot of toys to the youngsters. You will find my auto and chauffeur at the rear door, and you can start as soon as you get your load.'

In a few minutes they had left the business section, and after a brisk run drew up before the Children's Hospital. Tim entered heartily into the spirit of the occasion, and was at his best. As he passed from bed to bed accompanying each present with a kind word and a handshake the wards echoed with merriment. He had made the round of the institution, and had started down the stairs.

A white-capped nurse tapped him gently on the shoulder. 'You've missed one poor little fellow,' said she, and Tim turned and followed her upstairs to the top floor. Into one of the rear rooms they went, and there Tim beheld a little pale-faced lad lying in bed propped up with pillows. His eyes brightened as he looked up and saw the Santa Claus of his dreams. He stretched out his thin little hands to welcome him. Something seemed to come over Tim Blake. Throwing off his cap and tearing the snowy wig and beard from his face, he threw himself on his knees by the bedside and clasped the sick boy in his arms.

'It's my own Joey,' he cried, in a voice choking with emotion, 'my own Joey.'

The door of the room opened, and a sad-eyed woman entered softly. She stopped in bewilderment at the scene before her, but in a moment she was kneeling by Tim's side with her arms around his neck. The nurse tiptoed out of the room, gently closing the door behind her.

Somewhere out in the night a clock was chiming the hour of 12, and the joy bells were ringing all over the city.

Christmas had come indeed to the Department Store Santa Claus.—Benziger's Magazine.

TRY IT THIS YEAR

What does Christmas mean to you? A day off, a few remembrances from relatives and friends, and a good dinner—is that all? Surely you are going to make it an occasion for more than usual rejoicing this year, a real old-fashioned Christmas. Going to be liberal in spirit and pocket, and scatter merriment as you never did before. Been a little selfish, maybe, devoted so much time to enjoying yourself that you have forgotten other folks. Good folks, now, aren't they, the best folks in the world! And you're just going to show them how appreciative you are. You don't like this modern way of turning dear old Christmas into an occasion for trading and the exchange of meaningless printed cards, and you're going to see all the friends you can that day and shake hands with them and pat them on the back and tell them how glad you are to be with them; and to those you cannot see you are going to write long, warm-hearted letters, and tell them you want to hear from them oftener. Of course you will make presents, more than ever, but you're going to let the recipient know that there is a lot of good, warm heart-beats back of every little gift. Isn't that how you feel about the greatest of all birthdays?

CHRISTMAS DON'T'S

- Don't forget your Christmas duty.
- Don't forget the old folks at home.
- Don't look a gift horse in the mouth.
- Don't on this day of sweet memories forget those who have passed away.
- Don't leave the religious feeling behind you in church.
- Don't forget to send the crumbs to those who may need them.
- Don't allow your sympathy for the poor to spend itself in words.
- Don't speak of your zeal for the faith if you do not take a Catholic paper.
- Don't forget the words of a Kempis: 'It is not the gift, but the will of the giver.'
- Don't let the real significance of the day pass your mind. Christ was born to-day; celebrate the feast in a becoming manner.
- Don't make your Christmas present a mere formality or obligation. The beauty of making a gift is to leave the recipient convinced that it is sent as an expression of friendship and love.

FAMILY FUN

When the Cards are Handy.—Of the many curious things which may be done with a pack of fifty-two cards, perhaps the most interesting is the 'spelling out' of an entire suit. To do this, take the thirteen cards of any suit, place them face down, and arrange them in this manner: 9-6-3-Jack-10-5-7-2-King-8-1-4-Queen. When they are thus placed they are faced up, with the 9 on top and the Queen at the bottom. Now turn them over, so that they are face down with the Queen on top. Take the top card and place it underneath the pack and say 'O'; place the next card underneath the pack in the same way and say 'N', and the next card turn face up on the table, saying 'E'—ONE. Leaving 'E' face up, place the next top card underneath the pack, saying 'T'; the next the same way, saying 'W,' and the next lay face up on the table, saying 'O'—TWO, and so on through the suit. Remember, when you come to the last letter of a card, to lay that card face up on the table, leaving it there. When you have laid out the ten you continue by spelling out J-A-C-K and Q-U-E-E-N. Of course, after you have laid the Jack out you have only two cards left; but continue as before, and the Queen will come out, leaving only the King in your hand, which, of course, you lay on the others, completing the suit.

Shark in the Fish Pond.—The shark is made of stiff letter paper, that is, split up the centre of its body, which centre forms a little round dock with a narrow channel emerging at the tail. The fish should be about two inches long, the hole in the centre being a half-inch in diameter, or less. Put the fish on the water in such a way that the part below the division is well soaked, while the upper part lies on the surface dry. You then dip your finger in a little oil, put one or two drops carefully within the circle, and the fish will soon be propelled forward. The cause of this is that as the oil lies on the surface of the water it expands, and its only outlet being the channel from the centre of the shark, the force it exerts in getting down the channel will drive the fish forward, until the oil is released and able to spread itself further.

All Sorts

A town in North Prussia has decreed that any woman who promenades the streets in a trailing skirt will be fined.

'I see that Sir Joseph Ward is busy at his trade just now.' 'A trade! I didn't know he was a mechanic.' 'Oh, yes! He is a cabinetmaker.'

'I never saw such a storm in all my life.' 'Pardon me, my friend, since you "saw" the storm, no doubt you can tell us what color it was.' 'Certainly! The wind blew and the storm rose.'

Mamma—'And what did you say when Mr. Titewodd gave you a penny?'

Tommy—'I was as polite as I could be and didn't say nothin!'

The Christmas customs at the present time appear to have been drawn from all the nations. The Christmas tree is German, Santa Claus is Dutch, the stocking is Belgian, and the 'Merry Christmas' is English.

'What business is papa in, mamma?' 'Why, he is a tea sampler; he samples the different kinds of teas.' 'Mamma.' 'Yes, my boy.' 'Do you know what I want to be when I grow up?' 'No.' 'What, my boy?' 'A pie sampler.'

Here is an extract from the prospectus of a hotel in Switzerland: 'Weissbach is the favorite place of resort for those who are fond of solitude. Persons in search of solitude are, in fact, constantly flocking here from the four quarters of the globe.'

Scotsman: 'Hae ye ony hair restorer, mister?' Chemist: 'Yes, I have—something that will make the hair grow in twenty-four hours.' Scotsman: 'Aweel, gie yer ain heid a bit rub wi't, an' Ah'll look back the morn, an' see if ye're telling the truth.'

Since early days, it has been the custom in Scandinavia to observe what is called the Yule Peace. This lasts from Christmas Day to the feast of Epiphany, and is proclaimed by a public crier. Any violation of this peace is severely punished. All quarrels are adjusted, and old feuds laid aside during the period.

Sand falling on a wheel has for years been used in operating various small toys. The natural curiosity of the child, however, as to the motive power, often leads him to destroy the toy in order to discover the secret of its action. This has suggested an improvement in toys of this kind, which consists of a glass back by which the flow of sand may be observed. The inventor has also patented an arrangement that prevents the clogging of the wheel.

The Christmas season is the season, as Washington Irving says, for gathering together of family connections; and drawing closer again those bonds of kindred hearts, which the cares and pleasures and sorrows of the world are continually operating to cast loose; of once more calling back the children of a family, who have launched forth in life and wandered widely asunder, to assemble about the paternal hearth, that rallying place of the affections, there to grow young and loving again, among the endearing mementos of childhood.

A juryman came breathlessly into the court. 'Oh, your Honor, if you can excuse me, pray do. I don't know which will die first—my wife or my daughter.' 'Dear me, that's sad,' said the innocent judge. 'Certainly, you are excused.' The next day the juryman was met by a friend, who, in a sympathetic voice, asked: 'How is your wife?' 'She's all right, thank you.' 'And your daughter?' 'She's all right, too. Why do you ask?' 'Why, yesterday you said you did not know which would die first.' 'Nor do I. That is a problem that time alone can solve.'

The custom of putting various greens in the churches on Christmas Day is a very ancient one (says the *Ave Maria*). It would seem to be strictly in accordance with Holy Scripture; for we read in Isaiah (lx, 13): 'The glory of Libanus shall come to thee, the fir tree and the box tree and the pine tree together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary; and I will glorify the place of my feet.' An old Saxon couplet ran—

Whosoever against holly doth cry,
In a rope shall be hung full high;
while a fifteenth carol begins,
Holly and ivy, box and bay,
Put in the church on Christmas Day.

OUR SCHOOLS.

PROVINCIAL ECCLESIASTICAL SEMINARY

The annual distribution of prizes took place at the Provincial Ecclesiastical Seminary, Holy Cross College, Mosgiel, on December 14. The following is the list:—

Sacred Scripture: First prize, C. Collins, M. Scanlan (Dunedin); second, T. Conolly (Wellington) and E. Lynch (Dunedin).

Dogmatic Theology: First prize, C. Collins (Dunedin); second, T. Conolly (Wellington) and E. Lynch (Dunedin).

Moral Theology: First prize, C. Collins, E. Lynch, M. Scanlan; second, T. Conolly, J. Hanrahan (Christchurch).

Church History: First prize, C. Collins and J. Hanrahan; second, T. Conolly.

Metaphysics and Ethics: First prize, D. O'Connell and R. Burke (Dunedin).

Greek—1st Class: First prize, R. Burke, T. Hanrahan (Christchurch); next in merit, J. Falconer (Dunedin).

Greek—2nd Class: First prize, W. Monighan, F. Delargy.

First Latin: First prize, D. O'Connell, R. Burke; next in merit, J. Falconer.

Second Latin—1st division: D. McLaughlin. Second division: W. Monighan; next in merit, T. Hanrahan, F. Delargy, C. Ardagh, P. Minogue.

Bible History: First prize, Frank Delargy, C. Ardagh; next in merit, J. Falconer, P. Minogue.

Senior English: First prize, J. Falconer, F. Delargy, T. Hanrahan.

Second English: First prize, M. Spillane.

Third English and Third Mathematics: First prize, R. Hungerford, H. O'Connell, J. Farrell.

Third Latin: First prize, F. Cullen, second, M. Spillane; next in merit, G. Gregg, H. O'Connell.

First French: First prize, J. Falconer, C. Ardagh; next in merit, D. Daily, B. Kaveney. Second Class: First prize, M. Spillane; next in merit, W. Monighan, F. Delargy.

First and Second Mathematics: Frank Delargy, C. Ardagh; next in merit, F. Cullen.

English History and Geography: F. Delargy, T. Hanrahan, G. Gregg; next in merit, J. Falconer, B. Kaveney, F. Cullen.

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS' SCHOOL, DUNEDIN

The annual entertainment by, and distribution of prizes to, the pupils of the Christian Brothers' School, Dunedin, took place in the Garrison Hall on Monday evening. These entertainments are always remarkably well patronised by our Catholic people, but the attendance on this occasion easily established a record. At 8 o'clock there was scarcely standing room in the large hall. Owing to pressure on our space, we must content ourselves with saying the programme was an excellent one, and that the pupils acquitted themselves in a manner which elicited the enthusiastic applause of the audience, and reflected the highest credit on themselves and on their painstaking and popular teachers. The first part was opened by an overture by an orchestra under Mr. Vallis, and was followed by the 'Trial of Sir Thomas More,' in which the cast of characters was as follows:—Henry VIII., Master H. D. Moynihan; Duke of Norfolk, P. J. Collins; Sir Thomas More, T. P. Laffey; William, Sylvester Geerin; other sons, Eric Turner and James Lennon; Cromwell, J. Moroney; Sir Alfred Allerton, P. Spiers; First Judge, H. Drury; Second Judge, J. Stapleton; First Guard, J. McKeefry; Second Guard, P. Keligher; Usher, E. Stanaway; Gentleman-in-waiting, T. Layburn. The second part consisted of orchestral selection; song, 'The winking stars,' infant class; military display by Hibernian Cadets; song, (a) 'Midshipmite' (solo and chorus), (b) Sailors' Hornpipe (Master McKenzie), (c) 'Young sailors we' (selected voices and chorus), juniors; gymnastic display, juniors; song, 'No one like mother to me,' Master A. Tarleton; recitation, 'Rory the Rapparee,' T. P. Laffey; selection, (a) 'Laudate Pueri,' (b) 'Reapers' chorus,' school choir; gymnastics, senior class; orchestral selection. Mr. Vallis was musical direc-

tor, Mr. L. Stokes was accompanist, and Mr. T. P. Laffey gymnastic instructor.

At the interval Rev. Brother Brady said it was not necessary to read the annual report, as it had been circulated with the programme. His Lordship the Bishop, who had always taken a deep interest in the school, had given three scholarships, which were supplemented by one given by Rev. Father Coffey. He then asked Father Coffey to distribute the prizes to the University class.

At the conclusion of the distribution of prizes, Rev. Father Coffey thanked the audience for their presence in such large numbers, showing that the Catholics of Dunedin appreciated the work of the Christian Brothers. Their presence there that evening in such large numbers also showed that they thoroughly appreciated the character of the Christian, moral education imparted at the school. The Catholic people, in providing their own schools, realise that unless education is thorough, unless it is calculated to advance the moral instincts of the creature, it is lopsided, and it fails in its object. Man was created for a high and noble purpose, and the divine instinct in the boy must be cultivated and the faculties extended so as to fit him for his destiny, and this can only be done in a Christian atmosphere. It was alleged that the people were forced against their will to keep up their schools, but the people did not require any persuasion to support their schools, for they thoroughly appreciated the great work which the Brothers were doing and had done here for the past thirty-two years, and never at any time were their schools more successful or better attended than at the present time. The Catholic body have maintained their schools so that their children might be brought up with a knowledge of the moral law, of loyalty to their King and country, and to the King of Kings. Experience teaches us that Christian moral education must be imparted in a Christian atmosphere. It was not so much a question of the catechism, or of questions or answers, which formed the mind of the pupil; it was the atmosphere and the example which he had placed before him, such as was set before him in the lives of the Brothers. Here Father Coffey gave, in support of this contention, a quotation from the non-Catholic author of *European Civilization*. Continuing, he said that the boys had this Christian atmosphere, this example before them day after day in the Brothers' School. There were men in the world who contended that we should leave religion out of the schools, but history conclusively proved that these men were entirely wrong. Moral teaching must be founded on the laws of God, and if we left that out we would have a nation of pagans, and the people would not have a knowledge of right and wrong. Catholics would continue to fight against that spirit; they were determined, as far as they were able, to give a Christian education to their children. The speaker then gave a sketch of the history of the Christian Brothers, of the great success of their work in this Dominion, and of the high repute in which boys trained by them are held here. In the junior civil service examination during the year one of the boys from the Christian Brothers' School headed the list of 900 boys from Otago. This showed the excellent secular teaching imparted by the Brothers, and that successful secular teaching marched side by side with moral teaching. Here Father Coffey quoted from the report of a Royal Commission appointed to inquire into primary education in Ireland, in which the president, Earl Powis, paid a meed of praise to the excellence of the schools conducted by religious communities. It was a remarkable fact that, whilst the attendance at the public schools had been declining, that at the Christian Brothers' was better than ever. In conclusion, he publicly protested against the injustice that was being inflicted on the Catholic schools by the Government of the country. It makes use of our boys, and yet pays not one penny towards the upkeep of the schools, towards the education of those boys who give their time and their lives to the service of the country.

The following is the annual report:—

The Christian Brothers have much pleasure in presenting the report for the scholastic year 1908. In every department of school life success has been achieved. This happy result is in a great measure due to the parents themselves, who so willingly co-operated with the Brothers

in seeing that their children attended regularly throughout the year. Despite the disabilities under which our Catholic people labor in the matter of having to support their own schools, and at a time when 'free schools and free books' are the order of the day, it is a significant fact that the attendance roll shows a decided increase on last year's, the number of pupils whose names were entered on the roll for the current year being 310. This steady increase shows how much our people have at heart the true Christian education of their children, and what a value they set on the moral training of the young. The Brothers make the moral education of their pupils the foundation of their system, because education without moral training is unworthy of the name; moreover, they realise that success in this important branch of education means success in every other department. In this part of their work they received incalculable assistance from Rev. Father Coffey and the other priests of the Cathedral, who were most zealous in looking after the spiritual wants of the boys. Consequently, the attention of the boys to their religious duties has been very marked throughout the year, and it was a fitting conclusion to the year's work when a large class of over 60 boys made their First Communion.

The application of the boys to their studies on the whole has been satisfactory, and good work has been done in all the classes. Our school was visited this year by Rev. Brother Hennessy, from Dublin, and he was particularly struck with the educational tone which pervaded the whole establishment. In the public examinations the school has been very successful; six students passed the matriculation, four of them qualifying for medical preliminary, the other two for solicitor's general knowledge. In the civil service examinations the results are equally satisfactory. One student sat for senior civil, and passed in Latin, arithmetic, algebra, and commercial geography. Six passed the junior civil, five being placed on the credit list. In this examination Master George Albertson obtained first place among the boys' schools in Dunedin. The dux of the school for 1908 is Master Humphrey Moynihan.

As the physical training of our boys occupies a prominent place in our school curriculum, it is pleasing to note that our efforts in this department have met with much success. And here I may mention that in this part of our work we received much assistance from a series of physiological lectures delivered to the boys by Dr. J. P. Hastings. In the schools athletic championships held in the early part of the year our school carried off nineteen first, fourteen second prizes; in all, thirty-four medals. The school also got fourteen thirds, but no prizes are awarded to this position. These results are truly meritorious when we consider that twenty-four schools were represented and the conditions equal for all competitors. In the football field we had three teams playing. The Fourth Grade team were runners-up for the Association Cup, having lost but two matches during the season. In the Senior School Grade competition our A team showed themselves champions by going through the season without a defeat, winning the championship and five-aside tournament, thus securing the silver cup and sixteen silver medals. In the Junior Grade our B team came third on the list of thirteen, and runners-up in the five-aside tournament. In Senior School Grade cricket the school was likewise successful, our A team having gone through the season without a defeat, thus winning the pennant and the championship for the year. Continued interest has been taken with the Cadet Corps, and in the capable hands of Captain Columb and Lieutenants Callan and Columb the corps has reached a high state of efficiency. The corps won the silver cup presented by the Dresden Company for drill competition among defence cadets.

The devotion of the old boys to the school and their interest in its doings is very gratifying, and the Brothers take this opportunity to thank their many ex-pupils throughout the Dominion for the practical interest taken in their work.

To the generous donors to the prize list, to the many friends of the school, to the parents who entrust their children to our keeping we return our most sincere thanks, and wish them a very happy Christmas and a bright and prosperous New Year.

The following is the prize list:—

Dux of school: H. D. Moynihan (gold medal presented by Dr. J. P. Hastings).

Matriculation Form.—Class prizes—French and science, E. B. Walmsley; English and algebra, P. J. Collins; Latin and essay writing, G. Wakelin; mathematics, J. Fogarty; Latin and physiology, J. Moroney; geography and arithmetic, J. Monaghan; general knowledge and history, T. Fitzgerald; general improvement, H. McKee-fry.

Civil Service Form.—First aggregate—H. Drury (gold medal presented by Mrs. Miller); French and essay writ-

ing, J. Stapleton; science and arithmetic, P. Spiers; Latin and English, F. Le Breve; general improvement, J. Joyce; mathematics, M. McKee-fry; history, A. Burke.

Standard VII.—First in aggregate, T. Layburn; second in aggregate, C. Dunn; third in aggregate, J. Walsh; fourth in aggregate, F. Cameron; arithmetic, J. Salmon; English and writing, L. Bourke; geometry, E. Salmon; Christian doctrine and geography, R. O'Neill; general improvement, F. Powell; mathematics, P. O'Connor; Christian doctrine prize, A. Burke (gold medal); regular attendance prize, J. Walsh.

Sixth Class.—Errol Stanaway, 1; Francis Yule, 2; James McKee-fry, 3; Edward Nolan, 4; Leonard Walsh, 5; Francis Marlow, 6; John Hally, 7; Michael Lawless, 8; Philip Callery, 9; John McDonnell, 10. Special prizes—Geography, James Marlow; arithmetic, Joseph Brady; science, Hubert Sweeney; arithmetic, Leonard McKee-fry; oral composition and reading, Patrick Keligher; drawing, Joseph McKenzie; dictation, L. Shiel; industry and reading, J. Thompson; industry and general improvement, James Daly; drawing, W. Mead; arithmetic and reading, S. Geerin.

Fifth Class.—Francis Corcoran, 1; Bert Fogarty, 2; John Berin, 3; John Keenan, 4; Martin Rings, 5; Edward Sandys, 6; John Flannagan, 7; Thomas Muirhead, 8. Special prizes—Comprehension, A. Walsh; Christian doctrine, Cyril Hastings; English, James O'Brien; drawing, D. Keyes; industry and application, Peter Gaffney; reading, John Fenton; reading, M. O'Brien; dictation, Dan Burke; home exercise, R. Simpson; Christian doctrine, drawing, dictation, Bernard Walsh; English, Simeon, McAllen; Christian doctrine and writing, James Moir; writing, A. Burden; English, A. Gastafson; good conduct, H. Mulholland.

Fourth Class.—Vincent Shiel, 1; Patrick Nash, 2; James Fenton, 3; Gerald Thompson, 4; James O'Connor, 5; Thomas Hally, 6; Frank Mullins, 7; Eustace Thompson, 8.

Third Class.—James Dunne, 1; Edgar Turner, 2; Jas. Lennon, 3; William Pimbley, 4; Frank Walsh, 5; John McVeigh, 6; Patrick O'Connor, 7.

Second Class.—Charles Woods, 1; Albert Davidson, 2; Joseph Walsh, 3; Eric Culling, 4; Peter McKee-fry, 5; Edward Collins, 6; Harold Moore, 7; Francis Hally, 8.

First Class.—Noel Mackay, 1; Louis Wakelin, 2; Maurice O'Connor, 3; Alex. Gray, 4; Percy Hesford, 5; Steve Scoles, 6; Francis Rodgers, 7; Mafeking McAllen, 8.

SPECIAL PRIZES.

Irish History (Standard VI.)—Celtic cross presented by Mrs. Herbert, E. Stanaway. Irish History (Standard VII.)—T. Layburn. Senior Elocution—T. P. Laffey. Junior Elocution—Sylvester Geerin. Senior Gymnastics (gold medal presented by Messrs. Metcalf and Wilkinson)—J. Salmon. Champion athlete of school (gold medal presented by Mr. J. Collins)—H. D. Moynihan. Batting average—P. Collins. Bowling average, J. Stapleton. Junior Gymnastics—Tasman O'Brien. Hibernian Cadet competition in mathematics, English, and writing (Captain Columb's prize)—M. McKee-fry.

The school re-opens February 1, 1909.

ST. PHILOMENA'S COLLEGE, SOUTH DUNEDIN

The annual distribution of prizes to the pupils of St. Philomena's College, South Dunedin, conducted by the Sisters of Mercy, took place on Wednesday of last week. The Rev. Father Howard presided, and there were also present a numerous gathering of the parents and friends of the children. An interesting programme of vocal and instrumental items was submitted by pupils.

At the conclusion of the programme the Rev. Father Howard congratulated the Sisters and pupils on the excellent entertainment provided and on the successful termination of the year's work. From time to time during the year he had heard splendid reports as to the prosperity of the school, and he had had the opportunity on various occasions of seeing for himself how punctual and polite the pupils were. It was a source of gratification to him to notice that the children held prominent places on the lists of successful candidates at the musical examinations held in connection with the Trinity College and Associated Board of the Royal College and Royal Academy of Music, London. He felt that the parents must be very proud of having such a splendid school in their midst, where their children received such an excellent secular and, above all, religious education. After wishing the pupils a very happy Christmas and inviting the parents to go to the class room to inspect the display of work, the Rev. Father Howard then distributed the prizes. The list was as follows:—

Senior Division.—Christian doctrine—M. Neylon (gold medal); next in merit, G. Carmody. Dux of college,

Florrie McRae. Higher mathematics—May Lemon (silver medal); next in merit, M. Neylon. Composition, Josephine Kavaney. French—Irene Carmody; next in merit, M. Lemon. Geography and mapping—Maggie Lynch, M. Finn. Writing—Josephine Kavaney, Irene Carmody. Music, Maggie Lynch (gold medal). History, M. Finn. Pastel colors, M. Lynch. Singing—R. Carmody; next in merit, J. Kavaney. Painting, F. McRae.

Intermediate Division.—General proficiency, K. Farrington. Arithmetic—V. Marlow; next in merit, M. Browne. English—G. Carmody, M. Brennan. Geography—O. Norwood; next in merit, J. Dunford. Music—M. Brennan (silver medal). Reading—M. Dunford. Drawing, M. Brown. Pastels, V. Marlow. Music—R. Fitzpatrick (silver medal). Needlework—N. Mee (silver medal); next in merit, J. Dunford. Elocution, M. Brennan. French, R. Fitzpatrick. Crayons, N. Mee.

Junior Division.—A. Grade: Christian doctrine, Jack Dyer. Arithmetic—L. McDowall; next in merit, E. Murphy. Spelling—R. Carter, J. Dyer. English and composition, T. Dunford. Elocution—T. Dunford; next in merit, M. Hoare. French, I. McDowall; next in merit, Jack Dyer. Brushwork, E. Murphy. B. Grade: Christian doctrine—Stanislaus Marlow; next in merit, M. Walsh. Arithmetic, S. Marlow. English and composition—C. Dawson; next in merit, M. O'Kane. Geography, M. O'Kane. Mapping, Cedric Dawson. Reading, M. Carter. Elocution—C. Fahey; next in merit, S. Marlow. French—C. Dawson, C. Fahey. Needlework, M. O'Kane. C. Grade: Arithmetic, K. McDevitt. Elocution, Ima Dawson. Reading, M. Jones. Spelling, A. Reid. Drawing, R. Marlow. Order and neatness, L. Curran. Mental arithmetic, M. Curtin. Handwork, K. Airey.

Kindergarten Prizes.—Grade I: Good conduct and Bible stories, M. McMahon. Reading and recitation, Amy Dyer. Brushwork, K. Burk. Number, F. Dawson. Drawing, V. Reid. Word-building, F. Carter. Grade II: General improvement, E. Morrissey. Sight-reading, I. Curtin. Number, L. Murphy. Embroidery, W. White. Grade III: Number, R. Marlow. Reading and recitation, B. Meade. Cane-weaving, B. Marlow. Regular attendance, W. McDowall. Occupation, C. O'Kane. Handwork, N. Francis.

DOMINICAN CONVENT, OAMARU

(From our own correspondent.)

The annual distribution of prizes in connection with the Dominican Convent took place on Friday, December 11, in the presence of a large number of parents and friends. The usual interesting programme of musical items was carried out in a highly creditable manner by the pupils, and was much appreciated by all present. The following assisted at this part of the function: Misses Potter, Twomey, Hill (2), K. Ardagh, A. Lynch, M. Twomey, J. O'Meara, A. Lynch, and J. Pringle. Prior to the prize distribution a number of very handsome art studies were exhibited and received due praise for their beauty. The Right Rev. Mgr. Mackay presided, and spoke words of congratulation on the year's success and progress, and wished all a very happy holiday season.

The following is the prize list:—

Senior Division.—English, Doris Potter; arithmetic, Marjorie Winsley; Latin, Eileen O'Meara; first French, Kathleen O'Donnell; second French, Marjorie Winsley; history, Bernie Melville; mathematics, Eileen O'Meara; shorthand and bookkeeping, Grace Hair; penmanship, Cissy Rooney; essay, Merle Holmes; general improvement, Lucy Magee; freehand drawing, Rita Falconer; model drawing, Merle Holmes; religious knowledge, Kathleen O'Donnell.

Junior Division A.—First English, Janie Pringle; arithmetic, Kathleen Gallagher; freehand drawing, Lily O'Brien; French, Merle Holmes.

Junior Division B.—First English, Aggie Pringle; arithmetic, Agnes Forde; penmanship, Rita Kelly; religious knowledge, Aggie Pringle; needlework, Aggie Pringle.

Music Prizes.

Royal Academy of Music—Higher division—Maggie Twomey; lower division—Annie Lynch; elementary—Kitty Ardagh; primary—Mary Greaney; application—Ailis Molloy.

Trinity College—Intermediate division—M. Ardagh and E. O'Meara; junior—J. Pringle; preparatory—B. Foley (violin).

Harmony Prizes.—Intermediate—Maggie Ardagh. Junior—Janie Pringle; preparatory—Eva Miller and Martha Hille.

General Prizes.—First prize art needlework, M. Ardagh; second prize art needlework, Merle Holmes; lace work, Julia O'Meara; junior work prize, Aggie Pringle;

oil painting, May Hille; water-color painting, Julia O'Meara, Maggie Ardagh; class singing, Doris Potter; calisthenics and deportment, Maggie Ardagh; politeness, Mollie Dore. Eileen Cartwright; attendance, Marjorie Winsley and Eileen Kelly; good conduct, Isabelle M'Conc. Wreath (awarded by the votes of the pupils to the most amiable girl)—Maggie Ardagh.

Kindergarten Prizes.—Drawing, May O'Brien, reading, Mamie Molloy; improvement in music, Maggie Fitzgerald; conduct, Kathleen O'Brien; Kgtm. embroidery, Vera Berry; stick-laying, Mary Tansey; recitation, Annie O'Brien; gift I.—Eileen Haggie; general improvement, Josie Hannigan; writing and mat weaving, Eileen de Courcey; tables, Addie Tansey; block-building, Jim Cartwright; catechism, Kathleen O'Brien.

The school reopens on the first Tuesday in February, 1909.

DOMINICAN CONVENT SCHOOLS, INVERCARGILL

ST. CATHERINE'S.

The annual distribution of prizes took place in the forenoon of Tuesday, 15th inst. The Very Rev. Dean Burke presided, and the Rev. Father O'Malley was also present. Pressure of work in connection with the recent musical examinations, and the unusual prevalence of epidemics among the children for some months past, causing irregularity in the school attendance, combined to render impossible the public display, which usually attends the close of the scholastic year at St. Catherine's; consequently the customary invitations were not issued, and the proceedings were more or less informal.

Having distributed the prizes, the Very Rev. Dean Burke congratulated the recipients on the successes they had gained, and especially complimented the school on the good conduct of the pupils during the year. He concluded by wishing each and all a most enjoyable holiday.

The following is the prize list:—

Preparatory Oxford Grades.—B.—English: First prize (medal), W. Macpherson; second, L. Greig; arithmetic, first prize, W. Macpherson; second, M. Moloney; geography, W. Macpherson; French, E. McGrath. A.—English: First (medal), M. Stretell; second, H. Bews; arithmetic, first, R. Joyce; second, M. Cook. E.—Composition, M. Cook; geography, R. Joyce; French, R. Joyce.

Preliminary, Junior, and Senior Oxford Grades.—P. Grade—English: First prize (medal), E. Timpany; second, H. Pow; arithmetic, first, H. Pow; second, E. Timpany. E.—Composition, H. Pow; geography, S. Short; French, K. Gough. J. Grade—English: First (medal), I. Bews; second, A. Jennings; arithmetic, first, I. Bews; second, K. Gough. E.—Composition, A. Crawford; geography, E. Timpany; French, first, H. Pow; second, C. King. S. Grade—English: First (medal), A. Welsh; second, O. Durie; arithmetic, first (medal), O. Durie; second, W. Anderson; geography, O. Durie; Latin, first, A. Welsh; second, W. Anderson; French, first, A. Welsh; second, O. Durie.

General Prizes.

Politeness, M. Campbell; deportment, A. Farris; drawing, first, K. Gough; second, S. Collins; punctuality and drill, first, E. Timpany; second, C. King; writing, first, M. McCarthy; second, M. Hawke; attention to French and English, V. Erskine; attention to studies, W. Allan, K. Guthrie, M. Nesbitt; punctuality and politeness, R. Treseder; catechism and general improvement, W. Hughes; art needlework, O. Durie; painting (medal), H. Pow; regular attendance, K. Gough; Christian doctrine (silver medal presented by Rev. J. O'Malley), first, A. Welsh; second, K. Joyce; third, A. Murray; Bible history (gold medal presented by Rev. J. O'Malley), D. Staunton; good conduct, A. Jennings; attention to music, V. Bews; improvement in writing and arithmetic, E. Collins; improvement in music and singing, Q. Burns; amiability (wreath awarded by the votes of her companions), O. Durie.

JUNIOR SCHOOL.

Religious knowledge, S. Broad; good conduct, Dora Martin; politeness and reading, Daisy Hamilton; regular attendance and English, Tilly McAlister; arithmetic and geography, Rosie Shepherd; grammar and recitation, Dorothy Brown; comprehension and geography, Thomasina Gilbertson; writing, Thomasina Gilbertson; needlework, French, and drawing, Dora Martin; music, Rosie Shepherd; English and arithmetic, Hyacinth Collins; application and arithmetic, Maggie Peterson; spelling and arithmetic, Sylvia Broad; nature study and recitation, Dorothy Smith; brush work and arithmetic, Ysoline Stretell; composition and application, Kitty Lavelle.

Kindergarten Department.

Grade IV.—Catechism, Nellie Hishon 1, Agnes Grogan 2; arithmetic and work, Mary Timpany; singing, Molly

Willis; reading, Nellie Hishon; tables and comprehension, Agnes Brogan; coloring, Doreen McNish; drawing and paper cutting, Kathleen Nisbet; writing and neatness, Edith Bowler; arithmetic and music, Margaret Morris; composition and recitation, Willie Matheson; politeness and music, Horatio Nelson.

Grade III.—Good conduct and spelling, Mavis Erskine; tables and punctuality, Doris Murray; politeness and writing, Doris Hawke; reading and gentleness, Nellie Philip; regular attendance and music, Phyllis McCredie; coloring and composition, Ione McPherson; number and sewing, Ethel Matheson; writing and paper-folding, Kitty Timpany; reading and tables, Walter Bews; mat-weaving and coloring, Felix Mannix; drawing and tables, Cecil Gilbertson.

Grade II.—Reading and singing, Mary Dickens; writing and drawing, Mamie Hewitt; composition and paper-cutting, Jack Martin; drawing and number, Jim Strettell; gardening, Jack Martin.

Grade I.—Drawing and counting, Angela Pasco; reading and mat-weaving, Dorothy Martin; writing, Maud Pascoe; drawing, Doris Matheson; stick-laying, Mavis Dickens; pricking and sewing, Rita O'Grady; bead-threading, Ethel Maher; drawing and sounding, Alfred Tull; reading and mat-weaving, Hugh Miller; chalk drawing, Pat Collins; counting, Jack Murray; stick-laying, Jack O'Bryne.

ST. JOSEPH'S GIRLS' SCHOOL.

In the afternoon the Very Rev. Dean Burke, together with the Rev. J. O'Malley, presided at the distribution of prizes to the pupils of St. Joseph's School. Amongst the premiums donated for the occasion were some suitable books presented by the Very Rev. Dean and handsome gold and silver medals presented by the Rev. Father O'Malley for Bible History and Christian Doctrine respectively. At the conclusion, the Very Rev. Dean Burke, in his usual felicitous manner, wished the children happy, and at the same time well-spent holidays.

ST. MARY'S CONVENT, WELLINGTON

The concert given at prize-distribution time by the pupils of St. Mary's Convent (says the *Dominion*) is always so far above the standard of such concerts that it is looked forward to by many music-lovers, and the performance given last night (December 10) quite equalled its predecessors. It was an uncommonly fine concert, and the audience was enthusiastic. There was a pianoforte duet, creditably played by the Misses Williams and Gibbs, Miss Nita Green played a Valse Brilliant, by Moszkowski, and Miss Haywood pleased her audience by her rendering of an Etude, by Chopin, while Miss Teresa McEnroe, who sang 'Hush, little one' very sweetly, afterwards played Schumann's Novelette, in E; Miss Veronica Flanagan gave a recitation with much spirit and expression. The vocal items were particularly good, for the convent pupils are well trained, and there are some very fine voices. Miss Agnes Segrief, A.T.C.L., sang Rossini's 'Elena' very well indeed, though one realised that her voice was at its best, and she joined with Miss McEnroe and Miss Storey in a trio in which the three voices blended charmingly. Miss May Storey gave the recitative and aria from Handel, 'So shall the lute.' She has a beautiful voice, sweet, and powerful, and full of promise, and this was one of the items the audience would have liked to encore had encores been allowed. Miss Rita Rabone, A.T.C.L., L.A.B., sang in a brilliant manner a scena of Bellini's and a delightful item was the Venetian Boat Song, which she sang as a duet with Miss Segrief. But perhaps the feature of the evening was Miss Ruby Macdonald's violin solo, a Concerto Romantique, by Godard. This was a magnificent piece of work, full of feeling and expression, and brilliantly carried out. When the concert had concluded, the pupils gave an exhibition of fancy club-drill, after which the prizes were distributed by Archbishop Redwood. The following is the prize-list:—

Good conduct, senior pupils, boarders, gold medal, 'Margaret O'Rourke Memorial'—Alice Draper.

Good conduct, day pupils, gold medal—Leila Flanagan.

Good conduct, junior pupils, boarders—Kathleen O'Donnell.

Good conduct, junior day pupils—Mary Mahony.

Christian doctrine, gold medal—Muriel Bevan.

Christian doctrine, gold medal—Norma McGrath.

Composition, gold medal, gift of his Grace Archbishop Redwood—Olive Young.

Dux, gold medal—Leila Flanagan.

Diligence, gold medal—Eva Goulter.

Singing, gold medal—May Storey.

Special prize for singing, gold medal—Teresa McEnroe

Singing, honors, highest marks, senior Royal Academy division—May Storey.

Singing, honors, highest marks, intermediate division—Teresa McEnroe.

Music, advanced grade Royal Academy, gold medal—Teresa McEnroe.

Music, playing from memory—Nita Greene.

Music, intermediate division—Girle Gibbs.

Music, intermediate Trinity division—Myra Hodgins.

Music, higher school division (equal)—Elsie Draper and Peter Bunny.

Music, lower school division—Kathleen O'Donnell.

Music, junior Trinity division—Bessie Gard.

Music, elementary division—Muriel Bevan.

Music, primary division—Eileen Black.

Theory of Music.

Higher school division—Nita Greene.

Lower school division—Olive Young.

Rudiments division—Iniwa Bunny.

Primary division—Dollie Hunter and Doris Clapham.

Mathematics, gold medal—Leila Flanagan.

Painting, gold medal, gift of Lady Ward—Eva Goulter.

Elocution, gold medal—Veronica Flanagan.

Physical drill, senior pupils—Olive Arthur.

Physical drill, junior pupils—Hilda Martin.

Needlework, first prize—Alice Draper.

Needlework, second prize (equal)—Alice Hodgins and Olive Arthur.

Needlework, third prize—Teresa Mahony.

Book-keeping, first prize—Eva Goulter.

Book-keeping, second prize—Muriel Bevan.

Book-keeping, third prize—Olive Arthur.

Typewriting—Gladys Collins.

Shorthand, gift of Miss Williams, first prize—Veronica Flanagan.

Shorthand, second prize—Muriel Bevan.

Shorthand, third prize—Eva Goulter.

Class Prizes.

Class I.—First division: English and Latin—Leila Flanagan. French—Nita Greene. Literature and history—Olive Young. Geography and mapping, model and free-hand drawing—Eva Goulter. Second division: Diligence, literature and history, geography and mapping—Muriel Bevan. English and composition—Iniwa Bunny. French—Olive Young. Latin (equal)—Olive Young and Norma McGrath. Model drawing and geometry—Olive Young. Freehand drawing—Iris Ross. Arithmetic—Madge Bolton.

Class II.—Christian doctrine—Girle Gibbs. Arithmetic and diligence—Katie Franklin. English and literature, composition and geography—Norma McGrath. Algebra and writing and mapping—Alice Draper. Reading and recitation and Latin—Geraldine McGrath. Freehand drawing—Elsie Draper. Model drawing—Dot Flewellyn. French—Iniwa Bunny.

Class III.—Christian doctrine and drawing—Arma Dorzac. Arithmetic, history, geography, French, and writing and mapping—Lily Dealy. Composition—Kathleen O'Donnell. Diligence and English—Alix Anstis. Algebra—Kathleen Franklin. Reading and recitation—Lucy Wynne.

Class IV.—Diligence—Barbara Hunter. Arithmetic—Teresa Mahony. Drawing—Doris Anstis. Writing and mapping, English, and reading and recitation—Muriel Collins. History and geography—Mary Mahony. Composition—Rita Leydon. French—Muriel Bevan.

Class V.—Arithmetic and geography—Lizzie Ross. Composition and history—Gladys Clapham. Writing and mapping—Florrie Meadows. English, reading and recitation, and diligence—Bessie Gard. Drawing—Monica Greenwood.

Preparatory School.

Class I.—Good conduct (girls)—Milly Matier. Good conduct (boys)—Cecil Dealy. Christian doctrine and history—Milly Matier. Composition, geography, writing, and French—Eileen Black. Arithmetic—Doris Guise and Dorothy Matier (equal). English—Winnie Ryan. Diligence—Kathleen Twohill. Drawing—Gwen Inge. Needlework—Emily Geange. Reading and recitation—Evelyn McGrath. Lower division: Arithmetic—Kennedy Gasquoine. Writing—Frances Gasquoine. English—Tope Haywood.

Class II.—Christian doctrine and composition—Cyril Dealy. Arithmetic and writing—Eileen Gleeson. Reading—Nana Day. Drawing—Gretchen Brice.

Nothing but absolutely the best meat is kept at the establishment of Mr. F. H. Steel, Colombo street, Christchurch. The annual output reaches nearly half a million pounds, this large turnover being a guarantee that the firm's goods are appreciated by the general public. Customers in city and suburbs are waited on daily, whilst those residing in the country can rely on having their orders promptly attended to....